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BRODY WAS SPECIAL

I'm writing these few lines to say that Bruiser Brody's death is not only a great loss to the world of pro wrestling, but to anyone who believes in decency and honor, two traits that certainly defined this great man.

Most people knew Brody as a cold, unaffectionate man. I know better. When Brody was wrestling for Southwest Championship Wrestling in the early '80s, I worked with SCW and not only had a chance to see him, but to get to know him. He was a down to earth person who never forgot where he came from.

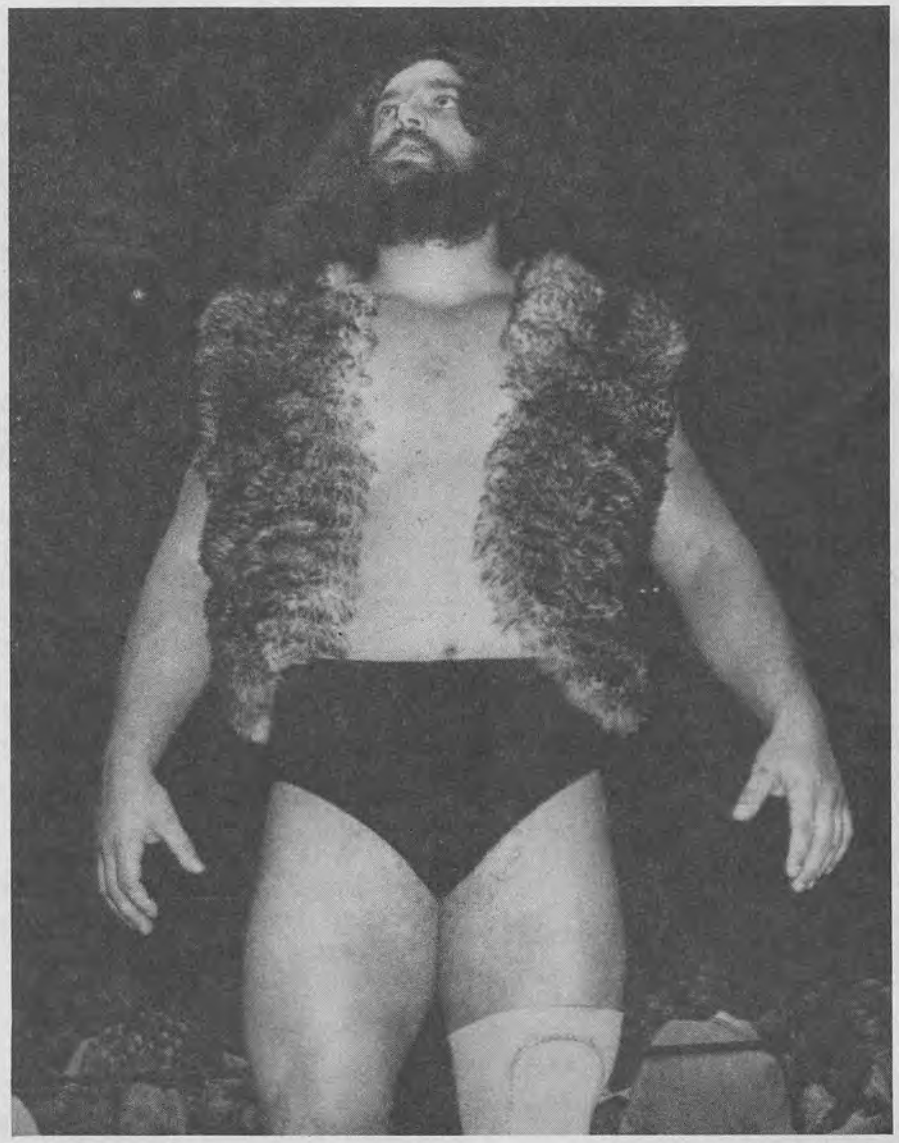
In December 1987, there was a supermarket grand opening here in San Antonio. Bruiser Brody was there, posing with fans. When my turn came, I asked Brody if he remembered me. Not only did he remember my name, but he even remembered what I did with the SCW.

To me, Brody was from a special breed. He was never egotistical the way most wrestlers are. I hope the fans who saw him will always remember him as he was. There was never a bad bone in his body.

Mr. Brody, it was nice knowing you as I did. Rest in peace.

JIM VASALDUA
San Antonio, TX

[Editor's Note: In lieu of flowers, a fund has been set up by Barbara Brody to benefit the oldest substance abuse program for kids in the United States. Send your donations to Patrician Movement, 222 E. Mitchell, San Antonio, TX 78210.]



The late Bruiser Brody was one of the toughest men ever to step into the ring, but reader Jim Vasaldua remembers Brody as a kind and decent person.

The Honky Tonk Man has held the Intercontinental title longer than any man in history, a fact that is savored by reader Tom Dymowski, a big Honky Tonk supporter.

Dusty has helped Garvin a lot, and this is his thanks? I am 14 years old and have watched wrestling for half my life. This is the most heinous affair since The Honky Tonk Man knocked down Elizabeth. Ronnie Garvin is going to pay for this.

KELLI SPICER
Brooklyn, NY

BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO

I recently attended an NWA show in Detroit and could not believe what happened. Ricky Morton was teamed with Brad Armstrong! Now, those of you who aren't big fans of The Rock 'n' Roll Express may not find this important, but it made me feel weird, like seeing your dog in someone else's yard. I didn't know *what* to think!

Then some guy next to me said that Robert Gibson had left the Express! I got angry and told the jerk not to spread evil rumors, but he convinced me that he wasn't lying. Could it possibly be true?

After a little digging, I found out

(Continued on page 42)

HONKYMANIA!

I've been a wrestling fan for a long time, and I have seen champions come and go. I'm sick and tired of reading these so-called experts putting down The Honky Tonk Man.

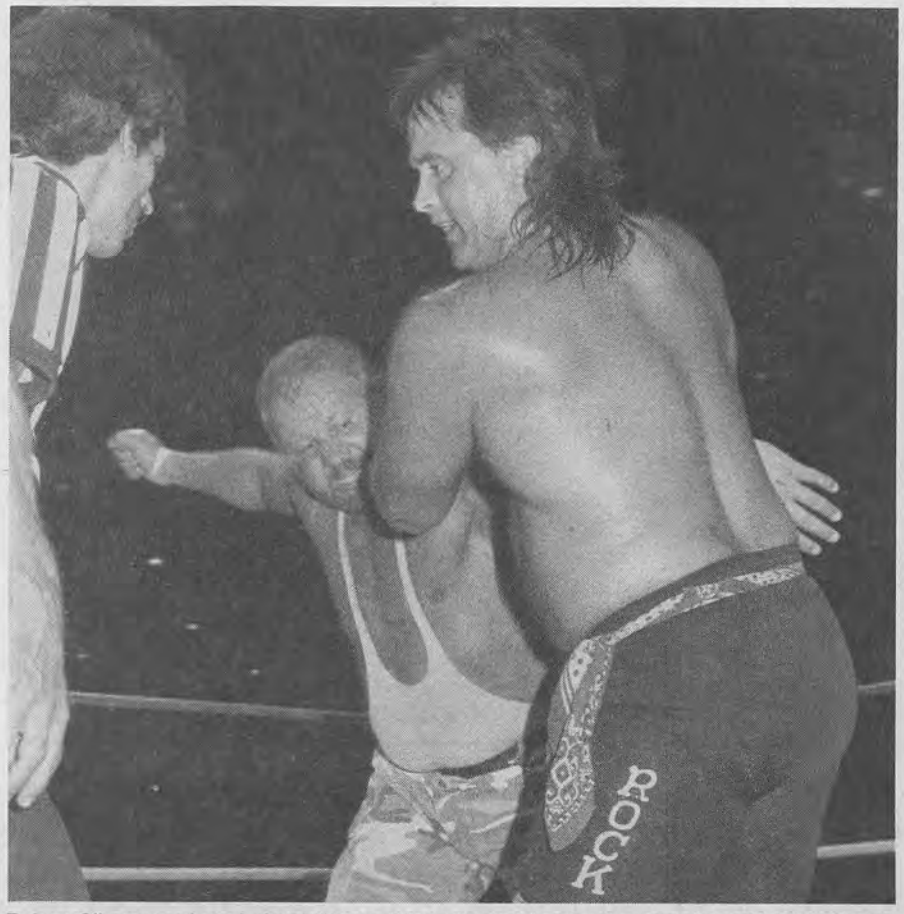
Writers put him down because of his lack of wrestling ability, but they seem to forget all about Hulk Hogan's questionable ring skills. He couldn't wrestle his way out of a paper bag, and he held the WWF belt for four years!

I'm not saying that Honky is a Ric Flair or a Randy Savage, but give the guy some credit! And let's not forget that as of August 2, 1988, Honky Tonk became the longest-reigning Intercontinental champion of all time.

TOM DYMOWSKI
Trenton, NJ

HEART OF STONE

Stop the presses! I just saw Ronnie Garvin attack Dusty Rhodes! I cannot believe my eyes! I'm disgusted with Ronnie "Hands of Stone" Garvin. Or maybe I should call him "Heart of Stone."



Robert Gibson armbars Luke Williams. Gibson's decision to stop teaming with Rick Morton and break up The Rock 'n' Roll Express was not well-received by reader Perry Rianhard.

THE TATTLER

WHEELING, WV: A feud between Intercontinental champion The Honky Tonk Man and The Ultimate Warrior erupted during a TV taping here after Honky Tonk and manager Jimmy Hart issued a blanket challenge to any wrestler in the WWF.

Ultimate Warrior immediately walked into the ring to accept the challenge, then began arguing with Hart. Honky Tonk tried to blindside him, but Ultimate turned around, grabbed Honky Tonk, delivered a series of clotheslines, and buried him in the mat with a splash before running off with the Intercontinental belt.

ULTIMATE WARRIOR

Later in the evening, WWF announcer Craig DeGeorge was interviewing Ultimate Warrior when Hart interrupted. Honky Tonk then ran in from the side, hit Ultimate in the knee with his guitar, and broke it over the Warrior's head. Ultimate was left lying on the floor as Honky Tonk and Hart walked away *without* the I-C belt.

The Ultimate Warrior was thought to be next in line for a shot at the I-C title if Honky Tonk survived his August 29 battle with Brutus Beefcake (their final meeting, according to a match stipulation). But the WWF has a policy of not matching fan favorites vs. fan favorites, so an Ultimate Warrior-Beefcake match would be unlikely.

Honky Tonk, who recently became the longest-reigning I-C champion ever, has held the belt since June 2, 1987. Since WrestleMania IV, most of his title defenses have been against Beefcake while Ultimate Warrior worked his way into contention.

Honky Tonk should be familiar with Ultimate Warrior's style of wrestling, which is very similar to Beefcake's. Both Ultimate and Beefcake lack stamina and pure scientific ability, but make up for it with incredible power and determination. Beefcake might have been sidetracked in matches against Honky Tonk by his desire to give the champ and Hart an unwanted haircut. Ultimate, however, has only one goal: winning the belt.

—Ken Miranda

(Continued on page 58)

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YOUR QUESTION

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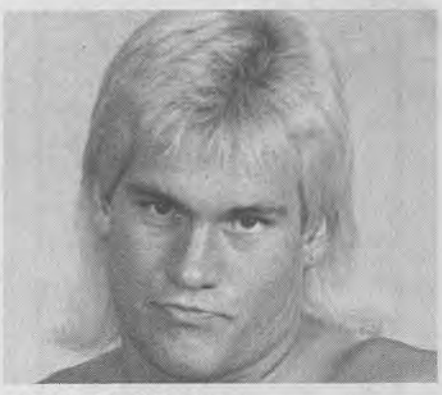
THE "QUESTION OF THE MONTH" IS:

"Are you better off with or without a manager?"

Submitted by: Lloyd Banalg Coxsackie, NY

TULLY BLANCHARD

"The Four Horsemen don't have a manager. We have an executive director in the person of James J. Dillon. You see, J.J. does much more than any other manager in the sport. Not only does he take care of our matches and contracts, but he aids us in our investments, profit sharing, and so on. He is the C.E.O. [chief executive officer] of the most complete organization in wrestling today. He's the best asset going."



JACK VICTORY

"Who needs a manager? Me and John Tatum have won every tag title there is here in Texas, and we've done it all without some sleazebag skimming 20 or 30 percent off our hard-earned money, too. This way, we keep every penny of what we've earned. Me and John have a very simple course of action—I schedule the matches, he sets up the transportation. That's it. Period. Case closed."

RANDY ROSE

"I'll tell you, I'd be the first one to admit that my career was in a holding pattern until I was lucky enough to meet the genius of professional wrestling, Paul E. Dangerously. He was the brains that led Dennis Condrey and me to the AWA World tag team title, and since then I've been the biggest star in the Windy City and Southern Championship areas. It's all thanks to Paul, daddy."

TONY ANTHONY

"Lady Mystic has changed my life, and I don't know where I'd be without her. She helps me with training, diet, and match strategies, and the results speak for themselves. With her by my side, I'll run that Dr. Tom Prichard and his valet, Bambi, right out of the sport. And let's face it, *everybody* notices me with sexy Mystic around. You've got to be noticed to make a big splash."

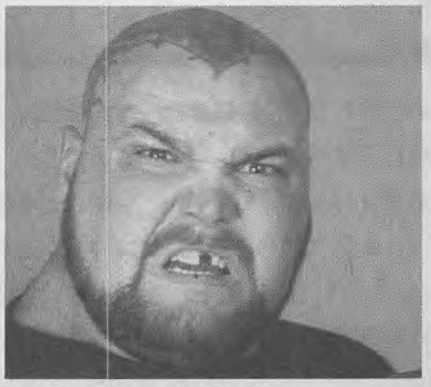
RS ANSWER OF THE MONTH

EDDIE GILBERT

"At one point in my career I swore I would never need a manager, but as I grew and matured into the superstar I am today, I realized that with all the money I was making I needed someone to lend a helping hand. Paul E. Dangerously turned out to be that man, and so far he's been a dream come true. Plus—and I'm one of the few who will admit this—he distracts referees like a dream! *Ha!*"

JERRY LAWLER

"When I first started, my manager was Sam Bass, who taught me a lot. But as I got older, I found out that the support of the fans was all I needed. I was talented enough to win my matches without outside interference, and now I won't accept anything less. Guys who use managers to win matches are just admitting to the world that they don't have enough talent to win on their own."



BAM BAM BIGELOW

"I've had two of the greatest managers in the sport in Larry Sharpe and Oliver Humperdink. Sharpe was a brilliant tactician, while Humper was fantastic with the dollars and cents. You'll never hear me put either one of them down, but right now I think I can go it alone. I never relied on managers to interfere in my matches, anyway, so I'm ready for anything the world can dish out."

PAUL DIAMOND

"Are you kidding? How can anyone even question the fantastic job that 'Diamond' Dallas Page has done for me and Pat Tanaka? Pat and I had been teaming together a while when we won the AWA World tag team title, and after that we hired Dallas to secure our investments, so to speak. Plus, he keeps us in full stock of those luscious Diamond Dolls. How can I complain?"

MANNY FERNANDEZ

"I don't need no stinking manager. Sure, Paul Jones managed me when Rick Rude and I won the NWA World tag title, but since then I've made my own way, and I haven't regretted it for one minute. I've never been more deadly than I am today. I'm crippling more men than I ever have at any time in my career. Who needs a manager to instruct me to beat people up? I can do that on my own."

DUSTY RHODES

"Believe it or not, Gary Hart was my manager a long, long time ago, long before I realized what 'The American Dream' was all about. I was just a crazy, mixed-up kid, and I needed guidance. I got suckered in by all of Hart's false promises, if you will. But today, I rule the roost all by my lonesome, and I'm gonna kick the booty out of scum like Hart all over our great country."

The Inquiring Reporter

No one knows wrestling better than the fans. Because of this, we're now giving these experts a forum for their views and opinions. Each month, we'll ask a controversial question and have the fans answer—no matter what those answers might be!

THE QUESTION:
"Whom do you side with in the feud among The Fabulous Freebirds?"

THE ANSWERS:
Lisa Schultz, Red Oak, TX: "Of course, I'm rooting for Michael Hayes in this whole mess. When Buddy Roberts and Terry Gordy returned to Texas earlier this year, they immediately started up the old Freebird-Von Erich war for no good reason. But when Hayes came back a couple of months later, he was smart enough to realize that Kerry and Kevin never meant him any harm. Now Gordy is siding with Hayes, and that's good. But the guy creating all the problems is Roberts. *He's* the one that's been escalating this feud, and I can't wait for Hayes to give him exactly what he's got coming to him."

Michael Hayes seems to be making Buddy Roberts beg for mercy. Hayes, Roberts, and Terry Gordy were united as The Freebirds for many years, but now they're going in three different directions—and no one is quite sure whom to root for.

Ken Hull, New York: "Hayes and Gordy have sold out! Only Buddy Roberts has had the guts to stay unpopular during this feud. All Hayes cares about is turning on the little girls and selling a lot of his record albums, and who can figure out what motivates Gordy? At least Roberts is smart enough to know that if you're a wrestler in World Class, it's the Von Erichs against everybody else. Roberts wants to be number one, and now he's assembled a great bunch of wrestlers with himself, Iceman Parsons, and the Samoan Swat Team. Plus, he's been winning most of his single matches against Hayes, and I always go with the winner. Buddy will emerge as the only Freebird who's a *real* champion."

Rich Rappleyea, Van, TX: "Actually, I feel sorry for Gordy, who's been kind of the odd man out during this whole situation. He now sees what Roberts is really all about, but he's been tentative about everything because he still considers himself a friend to

(Continued on page 56)

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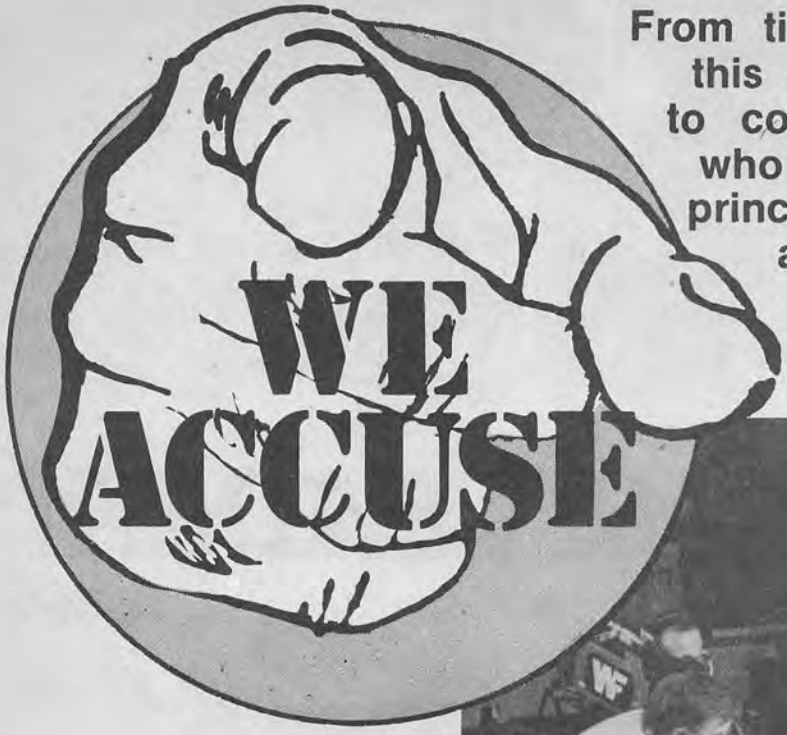


From time to time, the editors of this magazine find it necessary to condemn those in wrestling who would subvert the basic principles of decency, integrity, and honesty. Without such truths, our sport will die

Elizabeth and several WWF referees and officials aid Randy Savage after an attack by Andre the Giant and Ted DiBiase. The rulebreakers were not officially reprimanded by the WWF for their actions.

TWO MONTHS AGO in this column, the editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* accused The Four Horsemen of excessive brutality in their unprovoked parking-lot attack on Lex Luger. As the magazine was going to press, we were awaiting the official response of the NWA.

Well, we waited and waited and no punishment was ever issued. The Horsemen were free to continue committing these heinous acts.

But it doesn't end with the NWA.

In all federations there are acts of brutality that violate the rules to such a phenomenal extent that punishment should immediately be meted out.

The only problem is that the federations have *stopped* punishing the evil transgressors. The guilty parties, left unpunished to act as they please, repeat their sadistic acts with frightening efficiency.

It is for this reason that we at *Sports Review Wrestling* accuse all wrestling federations of abandoning their responsibility to enforce the rules on which their very existence is based. We accuse all federations of not being able to control the wrestlers who compete under their jurisdiction.

The incidents of extreme violence are numerous. During a recent interview, WWF World champion Randy Savage was approached by Andre the Giant. Menacing words were exchanged, of course, but that appeared to be the worst of it. Then, from Savage's blind side, Ted DiBiase and Virgil appeared. Within seconds, the unsuspecting Savage had been felled by DiBiase, then brutally beaten by the "Million-Dollar Man" and Andre. All the while, Virgil held Elizabeth, preventing her from getting help.

Again we waited for the federation to dole out punishment for the unprovoked attack; again we waited in vain. Certainly a suspension, however brief, was in order. None came.

We were prepared to use this column to accuse the WWF of cowardice when a tape of a recent CWA broadcast reached our offices. After watching the tape, we agreed that accusing only the WWF of official impropriety was far too limiting.

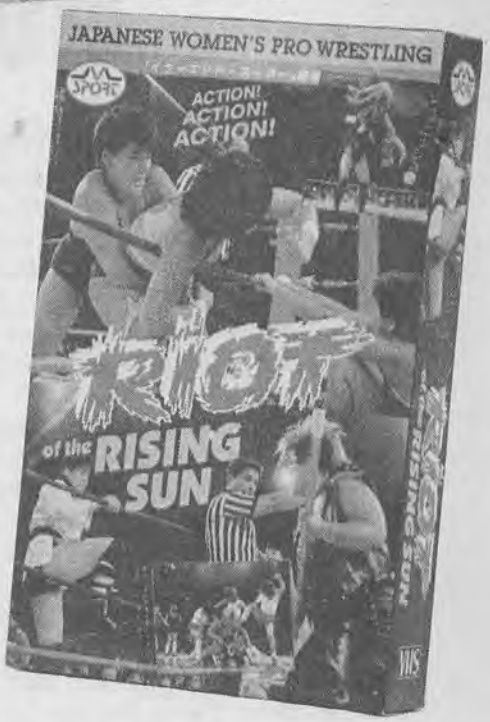
In just one hour of wrestling, three incidents of unparalleled brutality took place. All the events revolved around the axis of animosity, Robert Fuller, head of the "Stud Stable."

The first match of the evening pitted Billy Travis against Stable member

(Continued on page 50)

THE VIDEOTAPE EVENT OF THE YEAR!

You've heard about them . . . you've read about them . . . now you can see them for yourself! Japanese women wrestlers are among the most agile, athletic, acrobatic—and vicious—competitors in the entire mat world. Now, two sensational videotapes bring the dynamic action of Japanese women's wrestling into your own home!



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Jaguar Yokota, The Crush Girls, Devil Masami, The Jumping Bomb Angels, Dump Matsumoto—these are the legends of Japanese women's wrestling. They're all here, and more—including American superstar Wendi Richter. These matches, direct from Japanese television, include the kind of action that, until now, only satellite dish owners or Japanese fans could enjoy. These tapes are certain to become valued collectors' items. They include *complete* matches, not match excerpts!

Slant-Eyed Slaughter

(running time: approximately 70 minutes)

- Wendi Richter & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Okumura
- Nancy Kumi vs. Lucy Kayama
- Monster Ripper & "Devil" Masami vs. Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori & Mimi Hagiwara
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Tarantula
- "Crush Girl" Lioness Asuka vs. "Crush Girl" Chigusa Nagayo

Riot Of The Rising Sun

(running time: approximately 70 minutes)

- Yukari Omori & Ayumi "Jumbo" Hori vs. Noriyo Tateno & Itysuki Yamasaki—"The Jumping Bomb Angels"
- Masked You & Kaoru "Dump" Matsumoto vs. Lioness Asuka & Chigusa Nagayo—"The Crush Girls"
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. Las Galactia
- "Jaguar" Rimi Yokota vs. "Devil" Masami

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WRESTLER OF THE MONTH

HULK HOGAN

THEY SAY THAT if you love something, set it free. If it comes back, the love is real; if it doesn't, the love never existed. Hulk Hogan's fans understand this adage. After setting their hero free following WrestleMania IV, the legion of fans known as "Hulkamaniacs" anxiously hoped for the return of "The Hulkster," a return that would prove the love between man and throng was real.

They waited patiently, and now Hogan is back. "Hulkamania" *must* be for real!

While Hogan hasn't exactly been wrestling *every* night since his return, he *has* been impressive enough in his first few matches against archrival Andre the Giant to earn our accolades as this issue's Wrestler of the Month. Indeed, Hogan has returned in grand style.

And grand style doesn't mean only victories. Hogan's return has meant the kind of excitement that was temporarily absent from WWF wrestling. Sure, current World champion Randy Savage can pack an arena, but nobody can transform the crowd into his own frenzied rooting section the way Hogan can. While "Macho Madness" might be a form of temporary insanity, "Hulkamania" is clearly incurable.

Hogan made his official return on July 31 in Milwaukee County Stadium. A crowd of 27,300 screaming Hulkamaniacs provided their long-absent warrior with a hero's welcome. And when there are *that* many fans behind him, Hogan never loses.

The rematch between Hogan and Andre may have been the most anticipated match of the year. Fans waited an entire summer for Hogan's return, anxious to see what physical condition they would find "The Hulkster" in, and worried that he might have lost his competitive edge during the months of inactivity.

Steve Binhak, a fan who was at the Milwaukee show, summarizes the emotion in the stadium as Hogan was introduced:

"Well, most of us were guarded, like we weren't sure how he would look, how he would act. Suppose he wasn't the same, suppose he wasn't 'The Hulkster' we remember? I don't think any of us were prepared for that, but it could've happened, I guess. And then he came out. He looked better than he did when he was wrestling regularly! Everyone knew it. He's back!"

The cage match with Andre was Hulk's showcase. After throwing the Giant around and locking him up in the ropes, Hulk began punishing Andre's manager Bobby Heenan when Heenan attempted to interfere. Hogan knocked out both "The Brain" and the Giant, and escaped over the top of the cage for the victory—a victory that would be long savored by the fans. As the stadium emptied, murmurs of "He's back!" and "It's like he never left!" could be heard from virtually everyone.

Even in Greensboro, North Carolina—traditionally strong NWA territory—Hulk's return was well received. Hogan, looking fitter than he has in years, dominated his second return match with Andre, and actually had the Giant down for a pin when Heenan again interfered. Although the victory was by disqualification rather than pinfall, Hogan had again served notice on his triumphant return.

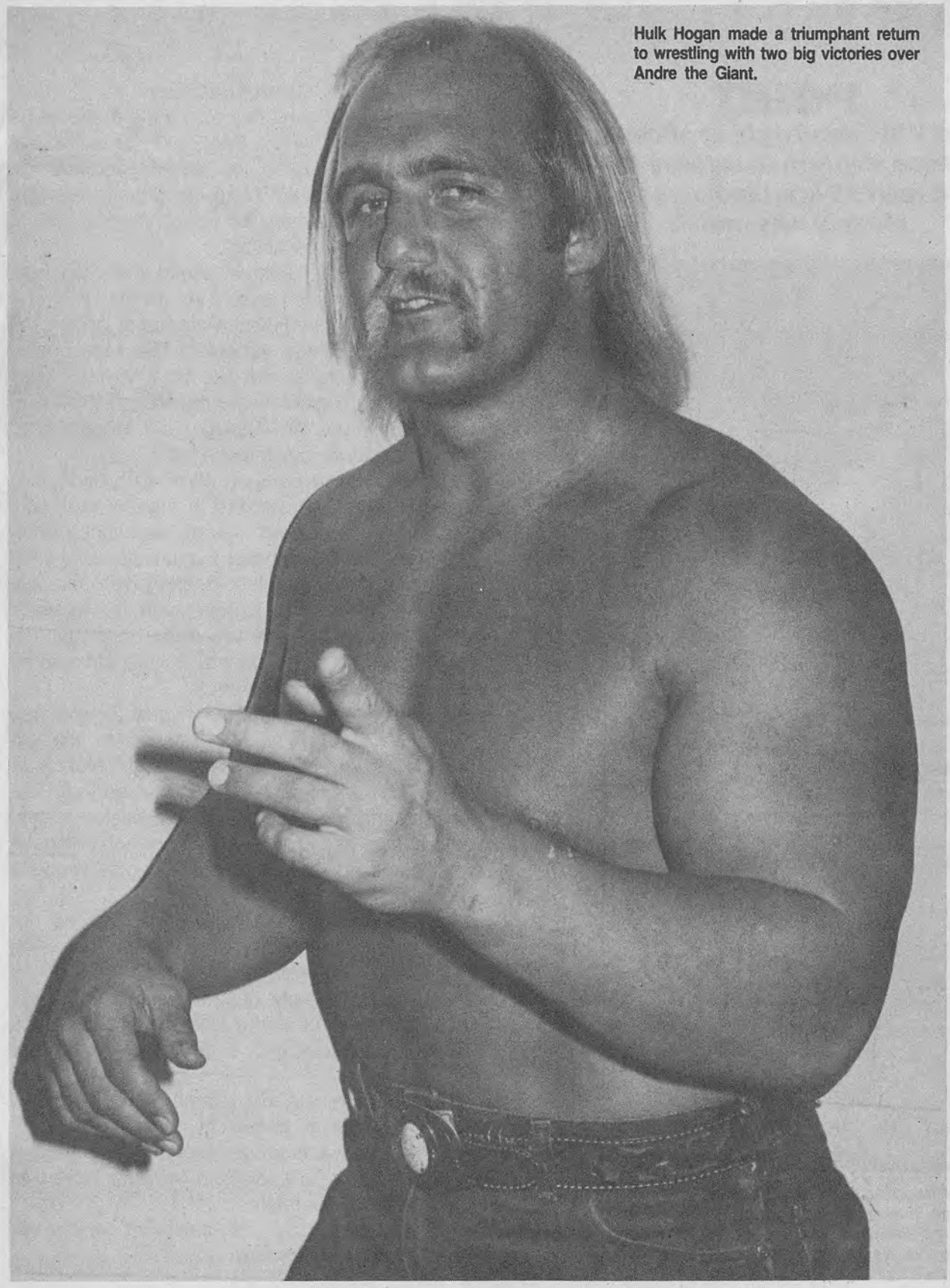
But it's not merely victories that make Hulk Hogan our Wrestler of the Month. He's had more important victories in the past. This month, we present Hogan with our highest award because the excitement of his return will stir the stagnating WWF, which has been nudged out of the sport's center-stage spotlight during the NWA's Great American Bash.

WWF world champion Randy Savage has been feuding with Ted DiBiase. Matches between the two, however, have stalled, as if the pair were joining the fans in awaiting Hogan's return. And now that "The Hulkster" is back, DiBiase will have to contend with Savage *and* Hogan. This renewed rivalry will hopefully yield great matches through the fall. Of course, Hogan's war with Andre will also be something to pay extremely close attention to over the coming months.

It is important to note that Hogan's alliance with Savage is stronger than ever. The August 29 Madison Square Garden pay-per-view TV card featuring The Megapowers (Savage and Hogan) vs. The Megabucks (DiBiase and Andre) should prove to be one of the most exciting events of the entire year.

"I know *I'll* be plugged in to that one!" said Detroit Hulkamaniac Kenny Dinkin. "That's the big one. This is the battle that will bring Hulk Hogan back to the forefront of wrestling. It will ensure his status as the greatest wrestler of the '80s and propel him to similar success in the next decade. His return is the most exciting thing to happen to wrestling since they invented the legdrop!"

And that, wrestling fans, is reason enough for naming Hulk Hogan November's Wrestler of the Month. □



Hulk Hogan made a triumphant return to wrestling with two big victories over Andre the Giant.

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

POINT

The WWF was right in allowing Jesse Ventura to referee the August 29 Megapowers vs. Megabucks match.

Jesse Ventura waves to the crowd at WrestleMania IV. Assistant Editor Gersh Kuntzman believes that "The Body" is a man of integrity and therefore will be an honest referee in the Megapowers vs. Megabucks match.

By Gersh Kuntzman

BEFORE I GO any further, I think it should be pointed out that the WWF did *not* name Jesse Ventura as referee for the Megapowers vs. Megabucks match in Madison Square Garden. That decision was made by Bobby Heenan and, in fact, Randy Savage himself.

Remember this: Savage issued the challenge. He asked for a match against Andre the Giant and Ted DiBiase. Bobby Heenan agreed to accept the challenge if Savage accepted the Megabucks' choice of Ventura as referee. So if Ventura *does* turn out to be biased toward the Megabucks—and I don't think he will—Savage and Hogan have nobody to blame but themselves.

I believe, however, that WWF President Jack Tunney would have stepped in anyway and said, "No, you must have an officially sanctioned referee," if not for the unusual circumstances behind this incredible match. Hulk Hogan and Andre the Giant are two of the biggest men in wrestling; DiBiase and Savage are two of the most dangerous. More than a 160-pound, 60-year-old referee was needed to control them.

As this is being written, the August 29 match is only two weeks away. I've listened to the exchanges between Ventura and Vince McMahon Jr. on WWF broadcasts, and I'm convinced that Ventura's integrity guarantees a fairly officiated match. Ventura has already been accused of being biased; this is his chance to prove people wrong—especially McMahon.

Besides, Ventura has tremendous respect for Savage, a man he admired long before the public recognized Savage as an outstanding wrestler. Although Ventura rarely has anything bad to say about DiBiase and Andre, there's little evidence that he has established a friendship with either man.

In most cases, a guest referee will go the extra mile to make sure people think he's being fair. Jesse Ventura wants to be remembered as a great wrestler. Now he also wants to be remembered as a great—and *fair*—referee.

Gersh Kuntzman is an assistant editor of *Sports Review Wrestling.*

There are two sides to every story, and nowhere is that more true than in professional wrestling. Each month, two of the world's most respected mat journalists will debate an important issue concerning the sport, facing off for an exchange of ideas, leaving the final decision up to *you*!

COUNTERPOINT

The WWF should not have allowed Jesse Ventura to referee the August 29 Megapowers vs. Megabucks match.

Hulk Hogan chokes Ventura during a 1983 match. It is Ventura's longstanding hatred for Hogan and the fact that he favors rulebreakers that make him a bad choice to be referee, writes Editor-in-Chief Stu Saks.

By Stu Saks

JESSE VENTURA HATES Hulk Hogan. That's one good reason why "The Body" shouldn't have been anywhere near the ring for the Megapowers vs. Megabucks match at Madison Square Garden.

Ventura has no respect for the fans. The fans will be rooting for Randy Savage and Hogan in this match. And that's another reason why the choice of Ventura as referee is an absolute scandal.

I appreciate Ventura as a broadcaster. Although he certainly isn't unbiased, the same can be said for Vince McMahon Jr. and Gorilla Monsoon, who unabashedly root for their own favorites. Ventura offsets them well and gives us the other side of the story. He's also extremely entertaining.

But his philosophy on wrestling is easily delineated. Ventura was a rulebreaker as a wrestler and now he espouses a rulebreaker's philosophy as a broadcaster. It's that simple. Ventura rarely has a bad word to say about either Andre the Giant or Ted DiBiase. He is a big fan of manager Bobby Heenan. I have never heard him say anything positive about Hogan, and he pretty much stopped liking Savage when the "Macho Man" became a fan favorite.

Although there are no titles on the line in the August 29 match—and we can be thankful for that—there's no doubt that this is one of the most important confrontations of the year. This is Hogan's chance to get revenge against DiBiase and Andre for stealing his title. This is DiBiase's chance to get revenge on Hogan for interfering in the WrestleMania IV title tournament final. And it's Andre's chance to wear down Savage prior to their upcoming series of matches.

It's a match to settle a number of scores. But nothing will be settled.

Referees are trained and paid to do a job. I've often marveled at how these men can control a match involving four men weighing upwards of 250 pounds each. But they know *how* to keep a match under control. They know how to be fair under even the most trying circumstances.

Ventura does not. Ventura knows only how to break, not enforce, the rules.

Stu Saks is the editor-in-chief of *Sports Review Wrestling*. □

SPORTS REVIEW

INTERVIEW

BAD COMPANY

IN A SPORT where looks are a definite asset, Pat Tanaka and Paul Diamond, better known as Bad Company, never fail to make an impression. This colorful duo turns the heads of fans of both genders, especially when they are accompanied by their manager, "Diamond" Dallas Page, and their endless succession of beautiful "Diamond Dolls."

When this wildly costumed group leaves the dressing room, everyone in the arena stops what they're doing just to watch these beautiful people strut toward the ring. When the bell rings, however, that beauty becomes secondary. Tanaka and Diamond are the current AWA World tag team champions, and they've forged a reputation as one of the most destructive teams in wrestling.

Tanaka and Diamond had only been competing in the AWA for a few weeks when they shocked the world by capturing the tag title from The Midnight Rockers on March 19 in Las Vegas. During their next Las Vegas appearance after winning the belts, Bad Company had a decidedly new approach to their look and style. They appointed as their manager the outspoken Page, who was accompanied by a beautiful but silent blonde valet.

They also acquired a new, brutal ring philosophy. No longer were they content to simply win matches; the new Bad Company was out to annihilate opponents. Page's influence was clear and immediate. This was a team that yearned for the national spotlight, and was willing to go to any lengths to get it.

"Diamond" Dallas Page took over the careers of Paul Diamond and Pat Tanaka—Bad Company—after they won the AWA World tag team belts. Page always makes sure that he and his wrestlers are accompanied by a "Diamond Doll."

Bad Company was once hounded for the belts by teams such as The Rock 'n' Roll Express, The Nasty Boys, and The Midnight Rockers, but all of those teams have left the federation. Today, the top contenders for the tag title are the combination of Ricky Rice and John Paul and The Guerrero Brothers, but thus far Tanaka and Diamond have managed to hold on to the belts.

Sports Review Wrestling Assistant Editor Bob Smith made an excursion to Las Vegas to catch up with Diamond and Tanaka, but when he arrived at the Showboat hotel he was informed that the interview with Bad Company had suddenly been canceled by Page. Smith made a second trip a week later, and Page agreed to the conversation—but only if he could be involved in every phase of the interview.

Q: Well, gentlemen, I'm glad I finally got the chance to sit down and speak with you. It's been . . .

DALLAS PAGE:

Wait a minute, sucker! I told you before that I would agree to have my kings of the world interviewed by you, but *only* if I would be fully involved. So now, ladies and gentlemen, let me introduce P-P-Pat Tanaka and Paul D-D-Diamond, the AWA World tag team champions, B-B-Bad Company, and that's spelled B, A, double-D!

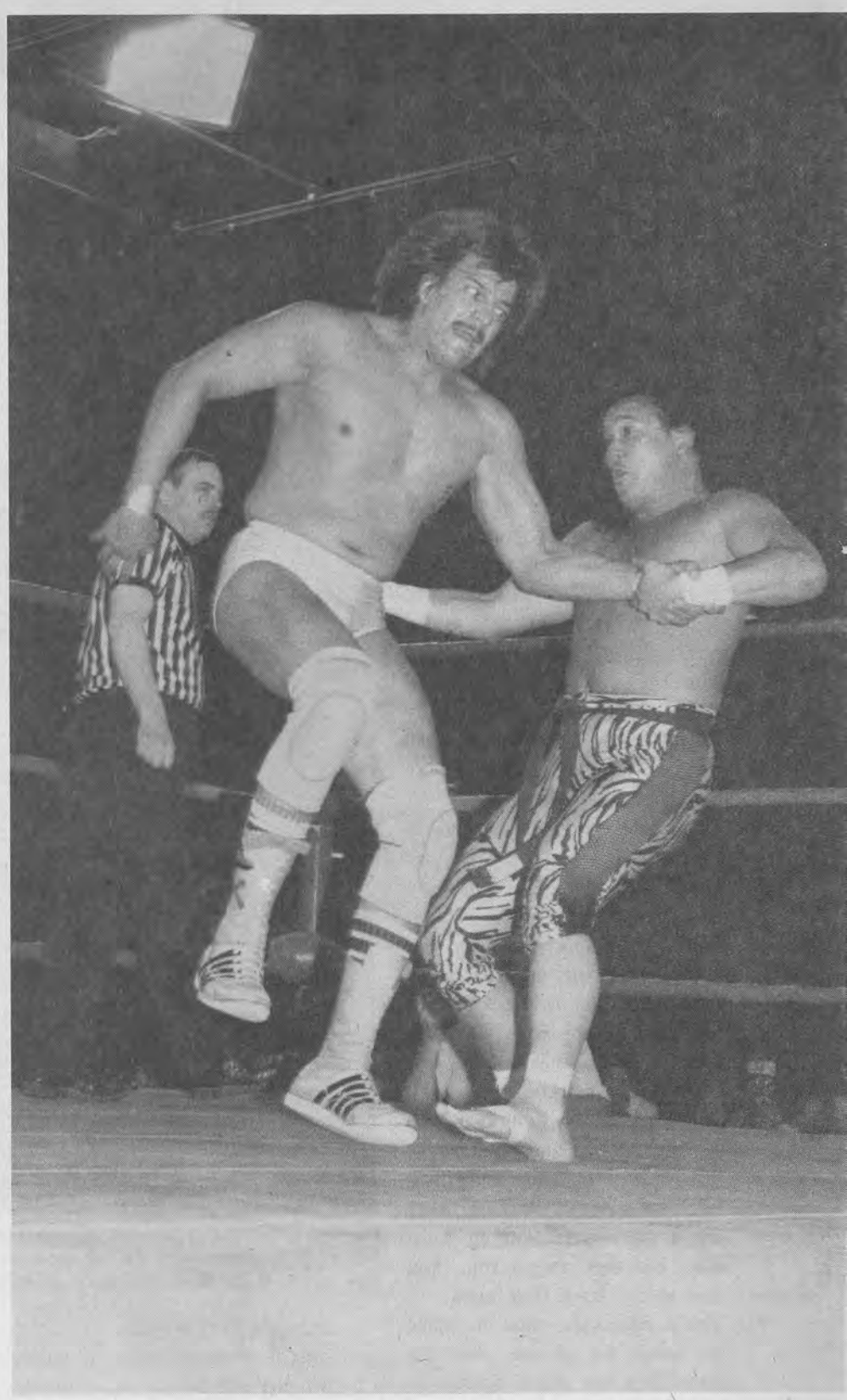
Q: Hold it right there, Dallas. This isn't a ring announcement, this is a *print* interview. You asked to be involved here, and I agreed, because you really *are* an important reason for Bad Company's current success. But if you insist on taking over this forum, I'm prepared to pack up and leave immediately.

PAT TANAKA:

Don't get upset, man. Dallas gets really excited when he talks about us. Not everybody gets the chance to manage the World tag team champions, and he's helped to make us an even more effective team. I don't know where we'd be without him.

DP: That's right, cod face. Pat and Paul were the perfect tag team even before I arrived on the scene, but they weren't being presented properly, so to speak. They were the champions, but they weren't gaining the money and prestige they needed to become superstars. Now, you can't hardly help *but* notice 'em, thanks to my host of lovely Diamond Dolls by their sides.

Q: It's true that you all make quite a colorful group, but a lot of AWA fans rank you as number one on their most hated lists. It really all started with the way you won the tag title from The Midnight Rockers back on March 19. You got away with throwing Marty Jannetty over the top rope and running his head into the steel ringpost. Both of those actions are usually immediate disqualifications in the AWA.



Tanaka whips Hector Guerrero across the ring. Tanaka's ability to match up move-for-move with a sensational scientific wrestler like Guerrero makes Bad Company one of the top teams in the sport.

PAUL DIAMOND:

So why are the fans so angry at us? They should be taking their frustrations out on that bandy-legged Gary DeRusha, the worst referee in the AWA. We saw early on in the match that DeRusha had no idea at all what he was doing, so we just bided our time and distracted him when the time

was right. Winning a championship is easy when you know how to work the officials.

PT: That's right. Granted, we could have finished off either Jannetty or [Shawn] Michaels any time we wanted to, but it was much more fun after making little Marty bleed all over the place.

Q: What kind of an attitude is that? Especially with the kind of pasts you guys have had!

DP: What kind of a jive question is *that* ?

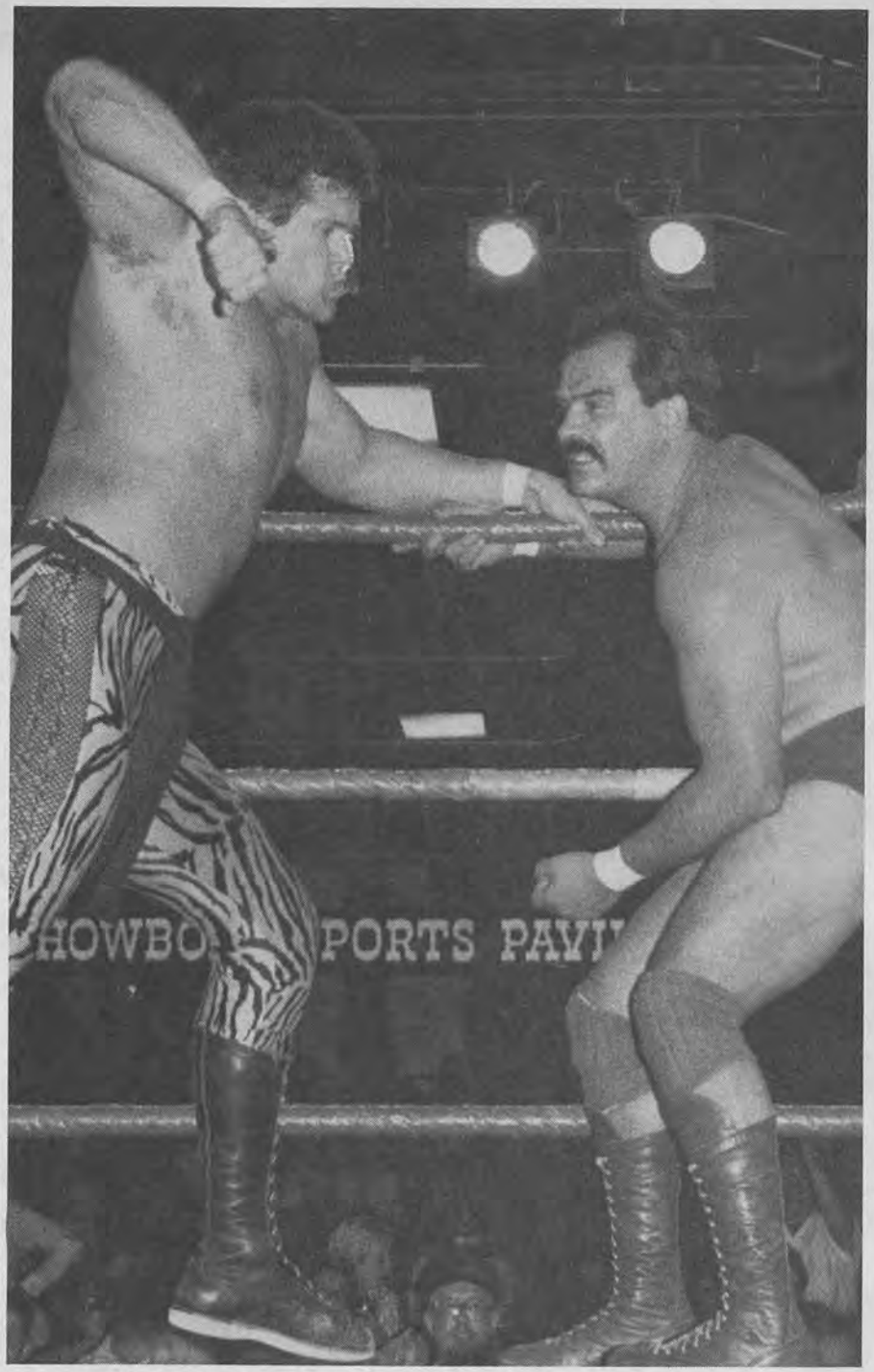
Q: Well, Pat, you've won the National AAU freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling championships a number of times, and you may be one of the best scientific wrestlers in the sport. Paul, you were one of the best soccer goalies in the world, and you played in the pros with the Tampa Bay Rowdies. Both of you have excelled by playing by the rules, but now the matches you two participate in are more like total wars.

PT: That's where Mr. Page comes in *(laughs)*.

DP: That's right, daddy. You see, these two have been the greatest team in the sport for over two years, but nobody ever mentioned them when they talked about the best duos in wrestling. After they won the title, I snatched up their contracts as quickly as I could. They were always fantastic, don't get me wrong, but now people that see them in action shake their heads in amazement, Jack. They aren't the biggest team in wrestling, but they always win. And they always leave their mark.

PD: That's right. We want to make life rough for all the other tag teams that are dumb enough to try to take these belts from us. We want to make sure that when a team meets us—and is ripped apart by us—that they never want to get near us again.

Q: I do have to admit that your top finishing maneuver, Paul's slingshot into Pat's DDT, is one of the most clever I've seen in tag team wrestling in years. I've never seen it executed where it didn't win the match.



Diamond battles Mando Guerrero into a corner. Diamond was a soccer goalie who successfully made the transition to the mat sport. He and Tanaka first teamed in the CWA. When they arrived in the AWA, they made an immediate impact.

PT: That's right. Paul and I are the fastest team in wrestling, which really is the key to that move. There's nothing more satisfying than seeing the wide eyes of our frightened opponents as Paul slings 'em across the ring toward me. Then, before they know what's happening, I bash their heads into the mat! I invented that maneuver.

PD: Hey, no you didn't, either! *I'm* the one who thought up that finisher!

DP: Boys, boys, take it easy! I know it's the greatest finish in wrestling today, but it's not worth arguing about. Just as long as we keep running out all the competition with it.

(Continued on page 52)

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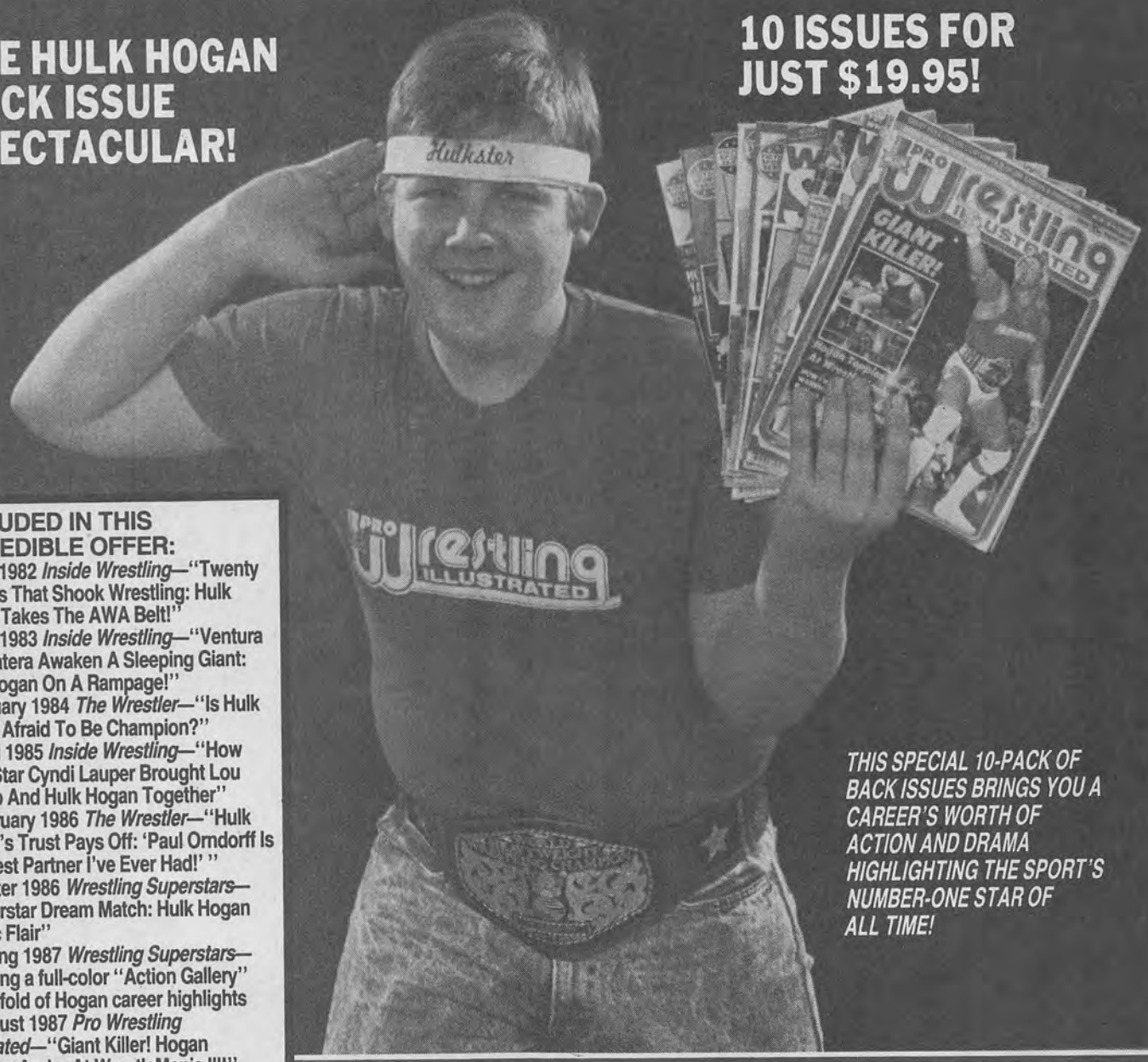

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- April 1985 *Inside Wrestling*—"How Rock Star Cyndi Lauper Brought Lou Albano And Hulk Hogan Together"
- February 1986 *The Wrestler*—"Hulk Hogan's Trust Pays Off: 'Paul Orndorff Is The Best Partner I've Ever Had!' "
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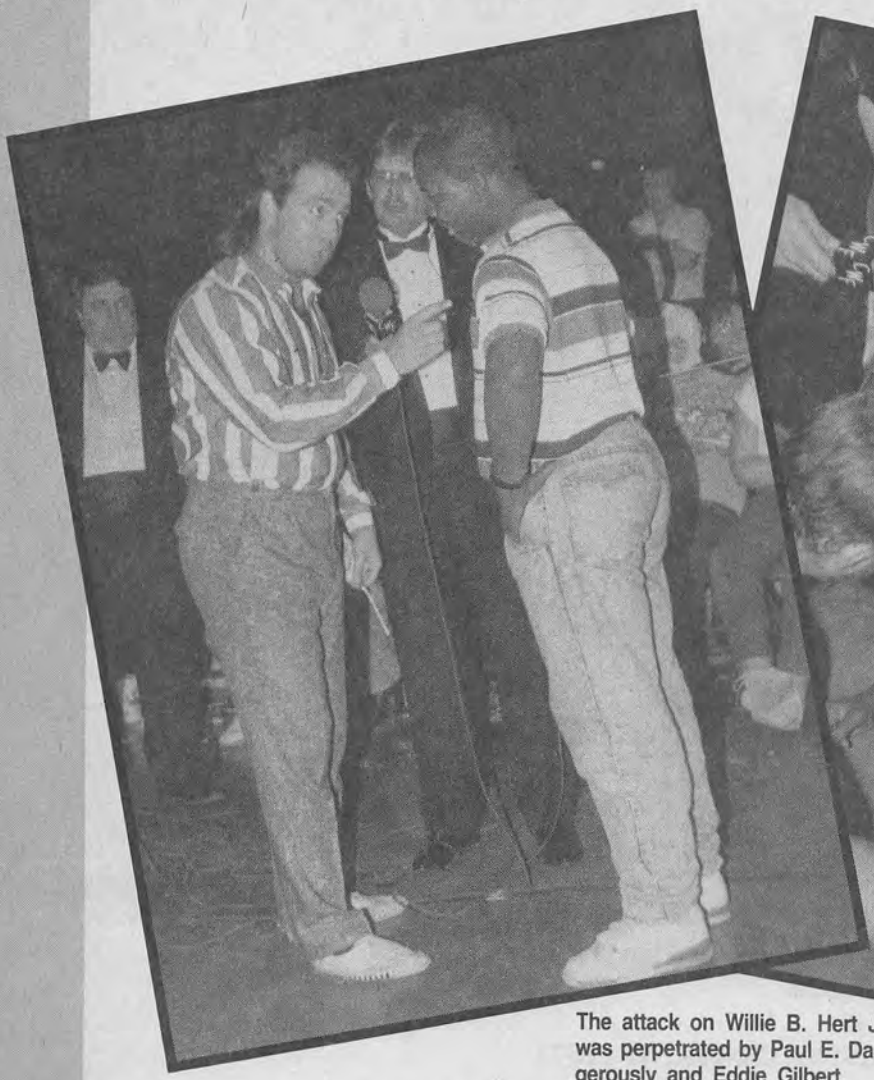
Memo To All Wrestling Federations

There's a dangerous trend developing in pro wrestling. Suddenly, fans are being asked by federation officials to make decisions that would ordinarily be made by these same officials. The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* demand that this practice be stopped . . . for the good of the sport!

LEAVE IT TO THE FANS?



The attack on Willie B. Hert Jr. was perpetrated by Paul E. Dangerously and Eddie Gilbert.

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!

TAKE A CLOSE look at your job description, Eddie Marlin.

Get a dictionary, Ron West.

fan (fan) *n.* an enthusiastic admirer or supporter (originally short for *fanatic,* a person filled with excessive enthusiasm or zeal for something).

officer (aw'-fi-ser) *n.* a person holding a position of authority or trust.

And never the twain shall meet.

***

Let's face it, nobody knows more about wrestling than the fans. The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* know we can't make the slightest mistake, something as minute as the misspelling of a wrestler's hometown, without hearing about it from hundreds of our readers.

Wrestling fans know their sport, just like baseball fans know baseball and football fans know football. But hypothetically, let's say that Major League Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth decided to let the fans pick the umpires for the World Series. They could pick a player, a coach, another fan, *anybody.* What would your reaction be if Keith Hernandez's father was calling balls and strikes during a Mets-Red Sox World Series?

You'd say it was ridiculous, right?

Of course!

And what if NFL President Pete Rozelle suspended Giants' linebacker Lawrence Taylor for beating up a referee or another player, temporarily lifted the suspension, and then decided to let the *fans* decide whether Taylor should be suspended for life?

You'd say this was ridiculous too, right?

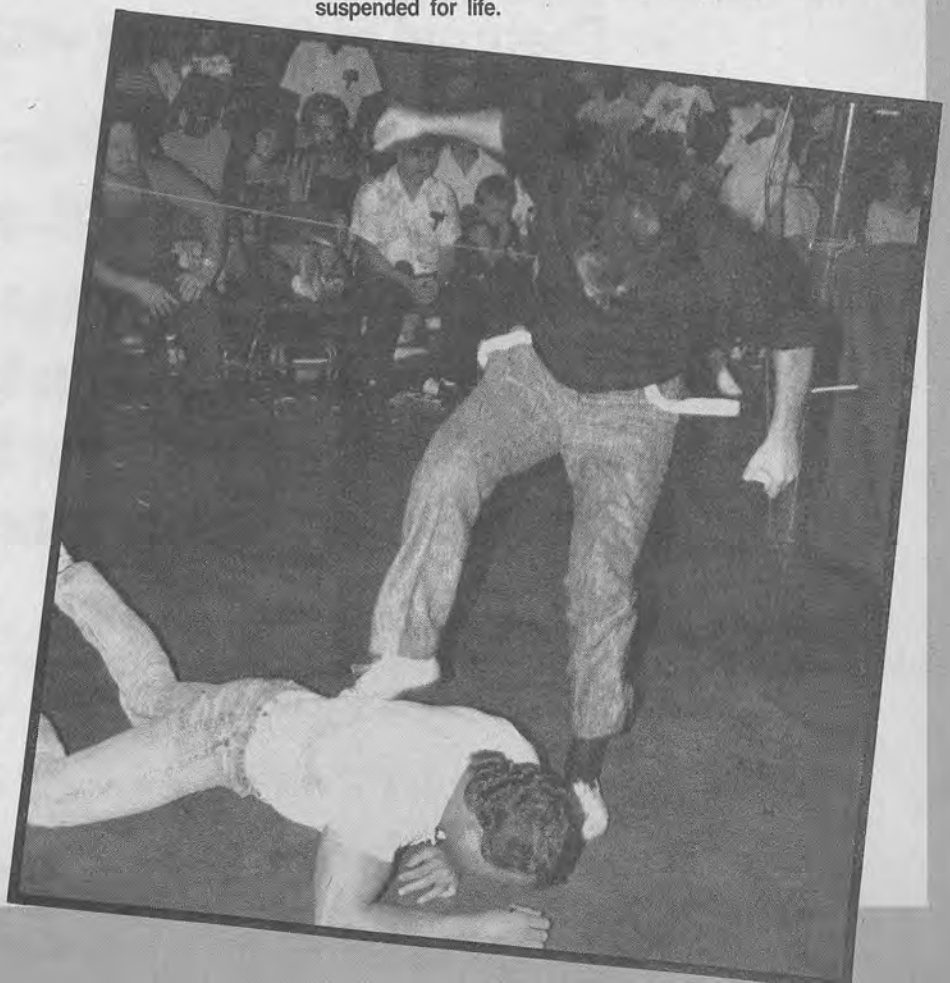
Of course!

Because such decisions cannot be left to the fans. After all, officials were hired to *officiate.* They are there to keep the sport under control and make sure that things are done properly. Peter Ueberroth and Pete Rozelle are expected to be impartial arbiters in matters affecting their sports. And the fans are expected to root for their favorite players and teams.

It's that simple.

(Continued on page 54)

Gilbert and Dangerously attack photographer Sam Lowe (above and below). Continental official Ron West is willing to let the fans decide if Gilbert and his manager should be suspended for life.



★ COMING OCTOBER 11 ★
A REMARKABLE SPECIAL ISSUE OF

THE Wrestler

★ Featuring ★

THE SUPERSTARS OF A SUPER SUMMER!

A spectacular eight-page full-color bonus section highlighting the top stars and peak action that made the summer of 1988 one of the most memorable seasons ever in wrestling!

★ Featured in full-color will be ★

★ Hulk Hogan ★ Ric Flair ★
★ Randy Savage ★ Lex Luger ★
★ Hacksaw Duggan ★
★ Sting ★ Jake Roberts ★
★ The Road Warriors ★

AND MANY, MANY MORE!

This special feature will include extensive full-color action coverage of the WWF's Milwaukee WrestleFest and the NWA's Great American Bash series, plus top summer '88 action from across the country

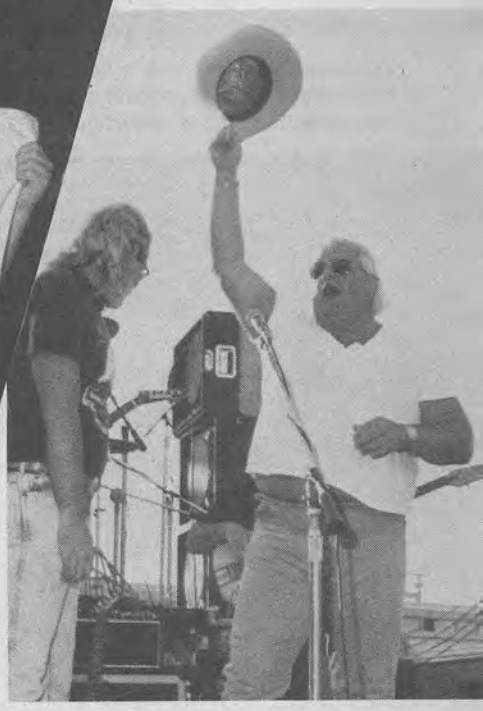
★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

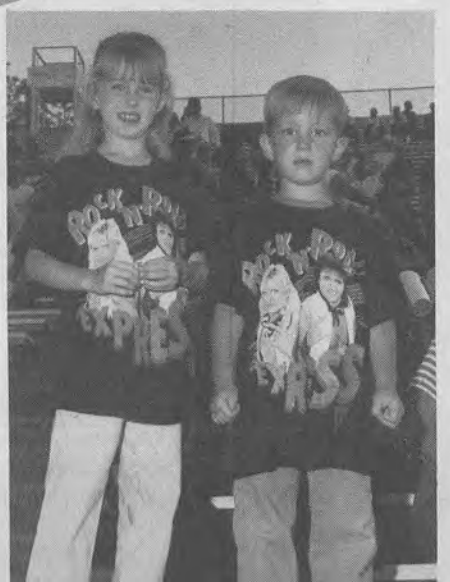
The "Superstars Of A Super Summer" special issue of *The Wrestler* is cover-dated December 1988 and goes on sale October 11. This one is sure to be a sellout, so get to your newsstand early!

THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH

FULL COVERAGE OF ALL THE ACTION, DRAMA, AND CONTROVERSY!

Once again, the NWA's annual summer series of excitement and terror thrilled fans across America. The Great American Bash has become a landmark on the wrestling calendar as the sport's top stars battle for a permanent place in the history books





SINCE WHEN DOES a match stop because of a trickle of blood from the forehead? That was the one question that dominated all talk of this year's Great American Bash. It was July 10 in Baltimore when Lex Luger appeared to have won the NWA World championship from Ric Flair. Luger had Flair in his painful "torture rack" backbreaker when an official of the Maryland State Athletic Commission halted the contest because of a supposed rule that requires a match to be stopped at the first sight of blood. The controversy that followed was enough to send NWA bigwigs cowering behind their desks.

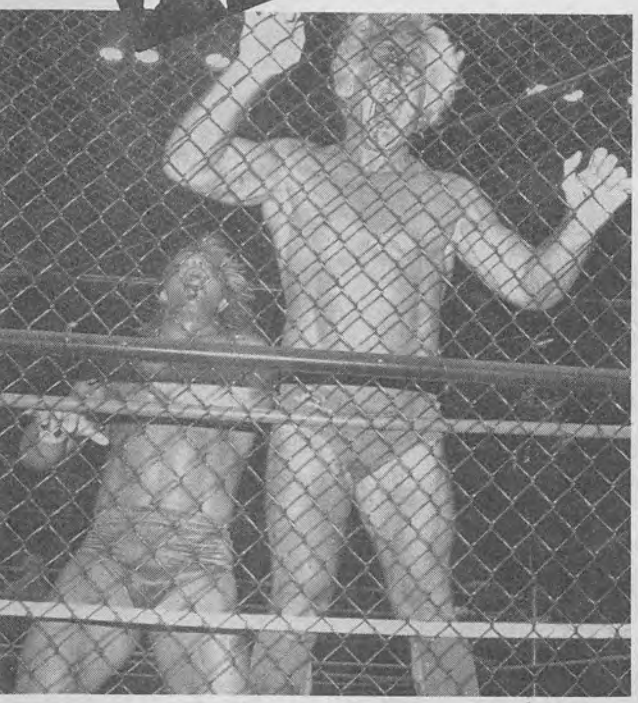
But that was only one incident in a summer of some 40 Bashes, quite a contrast from 1985 when there was only one Great American Bash, held at Charlotte Memorial Stadium

(Continued on page 46)

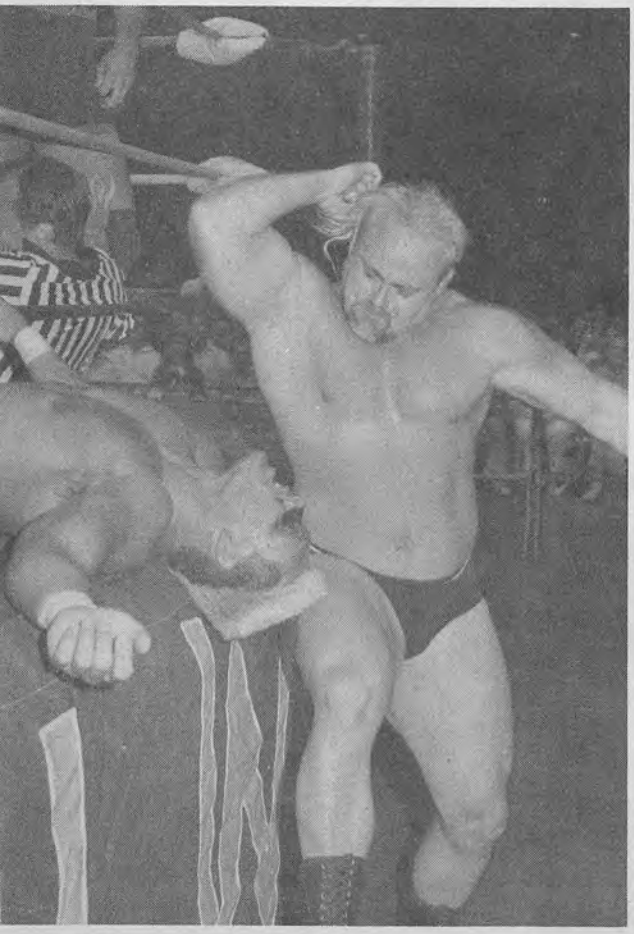
THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH

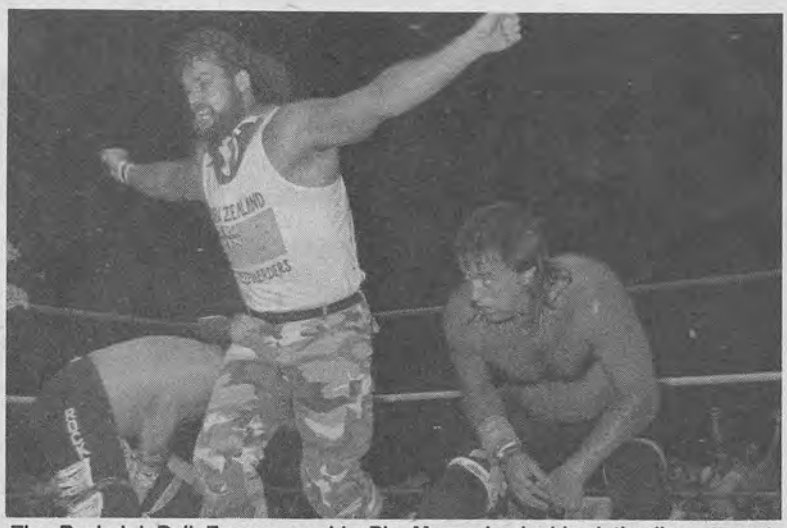
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

June 26, 1988

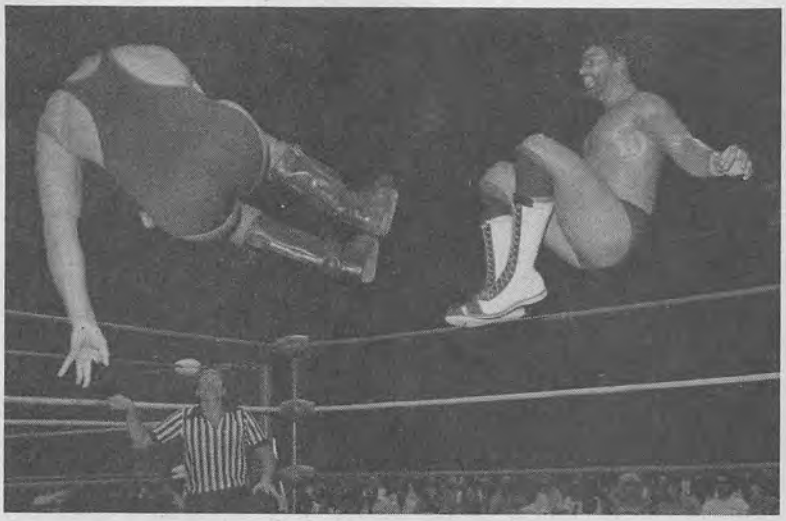


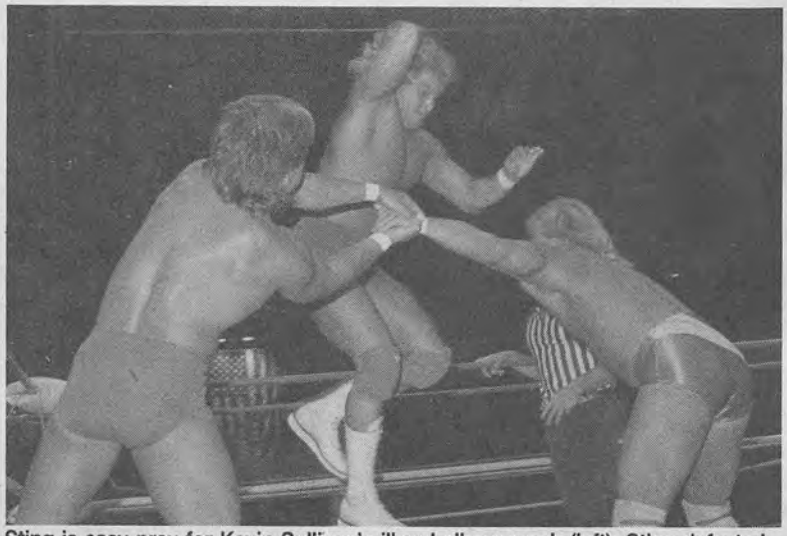
Lex Luger slams Ric Flair's head into the cage during their "War Games" confrontation (above); Luger's team won when J.J. Dillon submitted.





The Rock 'n' Roll Express avoids Rip Morgan's double-clothesline attempt (above) as the Express beats The Sheepherders. Both Nikita Koloff and Al Perez go for a dropkick (below); Perez won their death match.



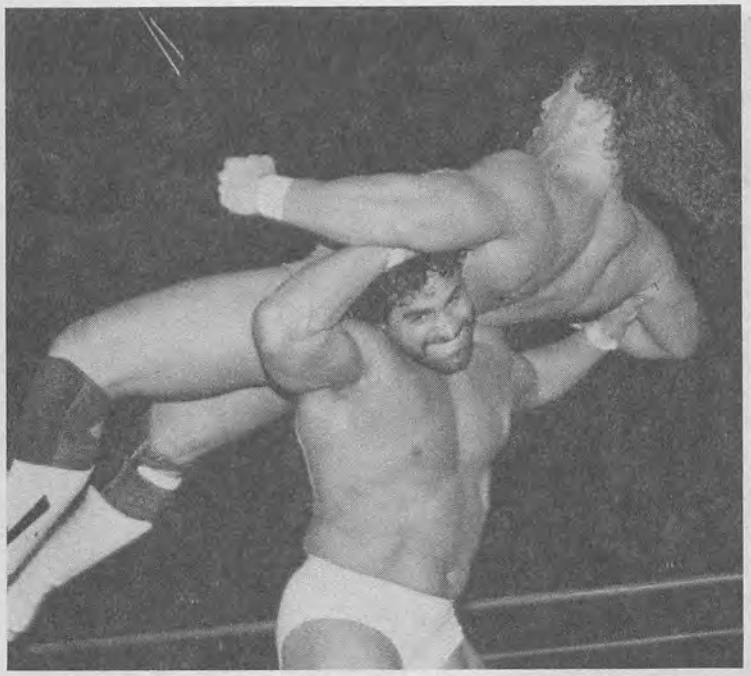


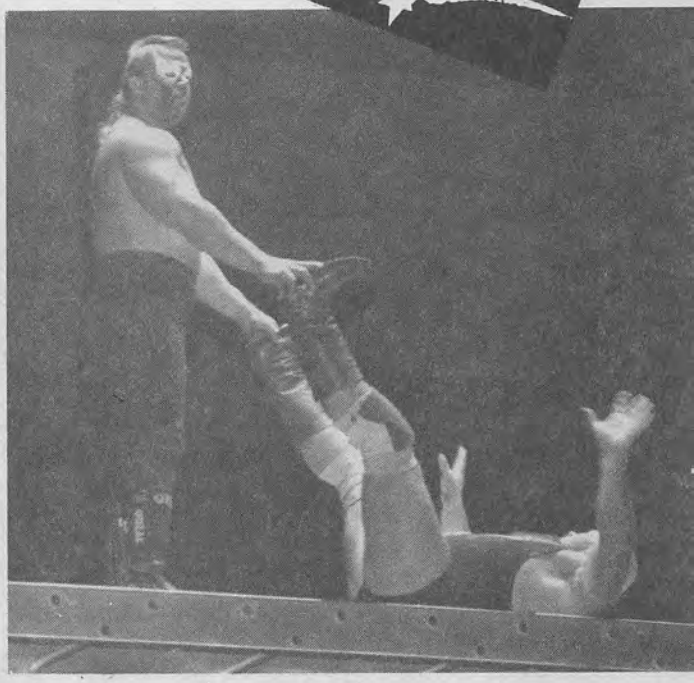
Sting is easy prey for Kevin Sullivan's illegal elbowsmash (left); Sting defeated Sullivan's man Mike Rotundo. The Fantastics stretch Stan Lane's arm (above) on their way to winning a "10-lashes-to-the-losers" contest.

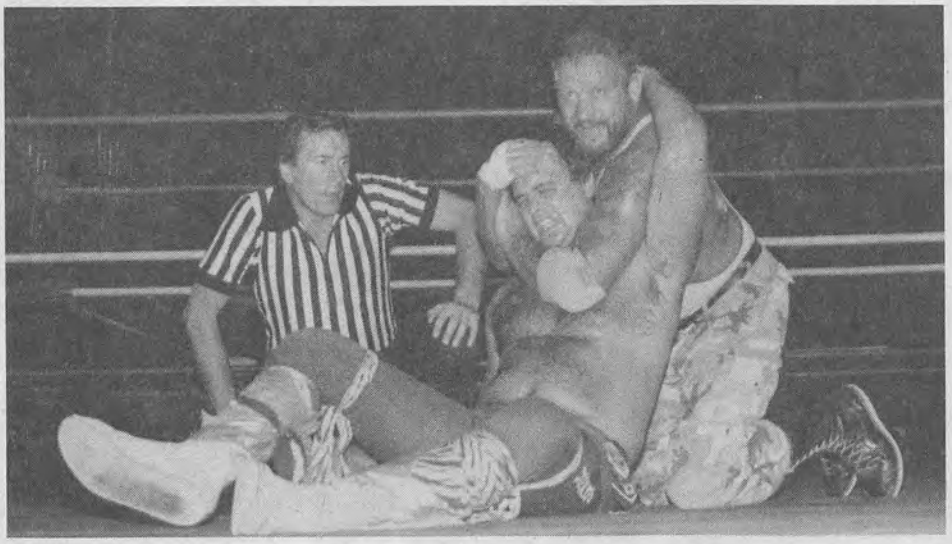
Photos by Duane Long

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA
July 16, 1988

THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH

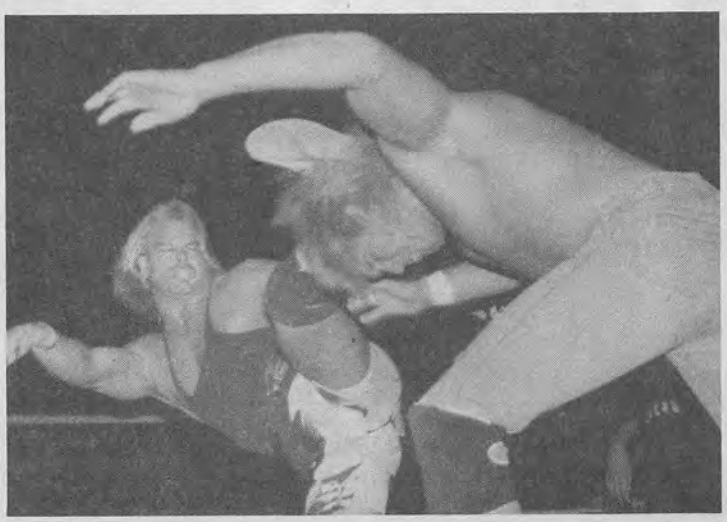


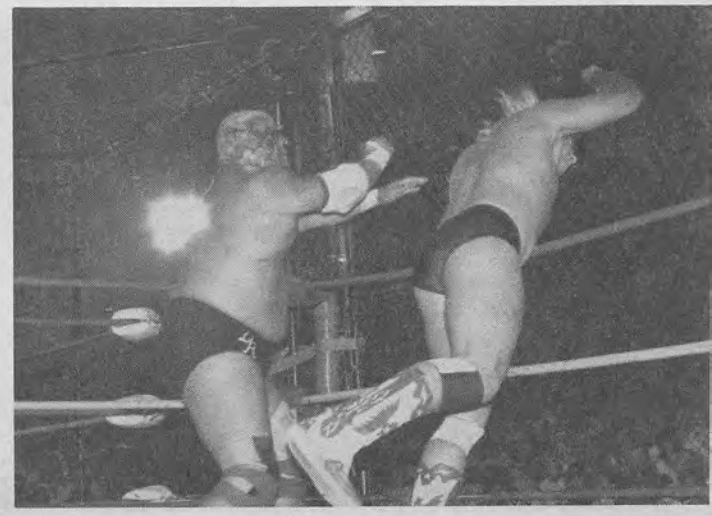




Perez puts Brad Armstrong in a backbreaker (top left); Perez won with interference by Gary Hart. Animal makes a wish on Ivan Koloff (above) as The Road Warriors beat Koloff and The Russian Assassin on the scaffold. Luke Williams slaps the sleeper on Robert Gibson (left); the Rock 'n' Rolls continued their dominance of the Sheeps.

Lane karate-kicks Bobby Fulton in the head (bottom left); The Fantastics won this handicap bunkhouse match when Fulton pinned Jim Cornette. Dusty Rhodes throws Barry Windham into the cage (below) at another "War Games" won by Dusty's team.



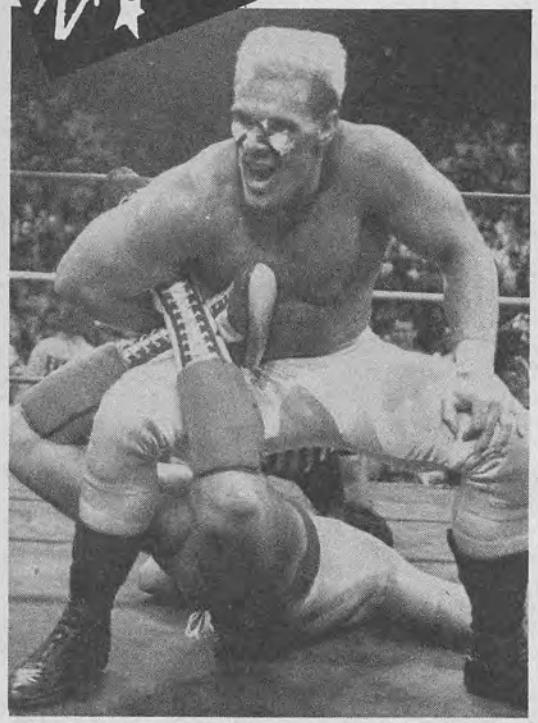


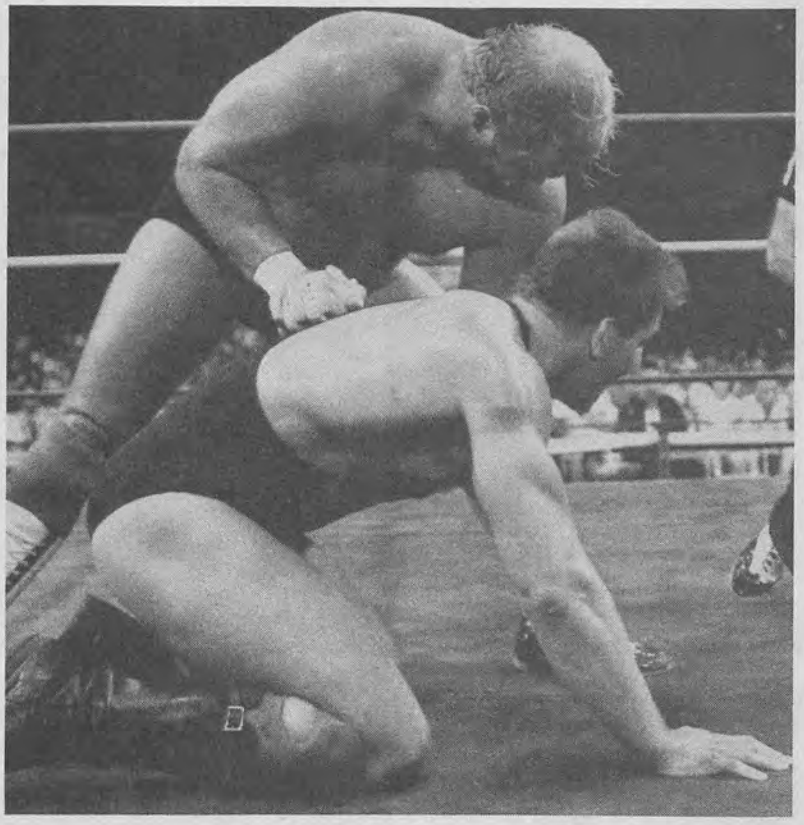
Photos By Floyd See

THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH

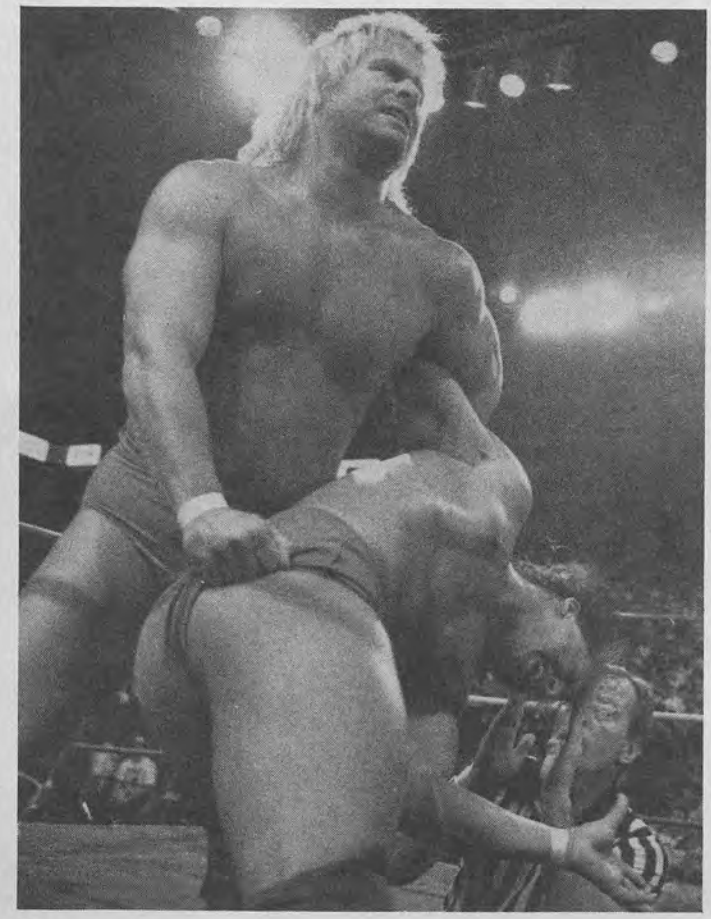
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

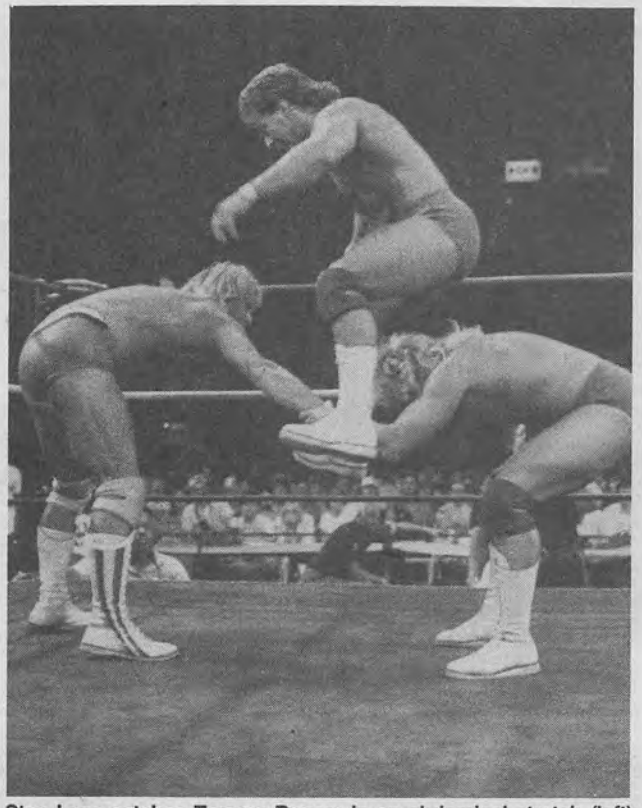
July 10, 1988





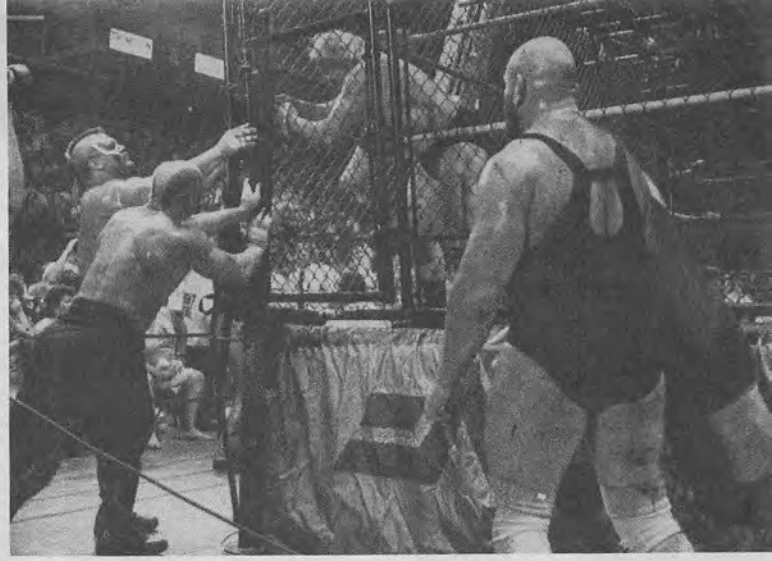
Sting puts the scorpion leglock on Tully Blanchard (above); Arn Anderson rides Nikita Koloff to the mat (right). Sting and Nikita wrestled the NWA World tag team champions to a 20-minute draw.



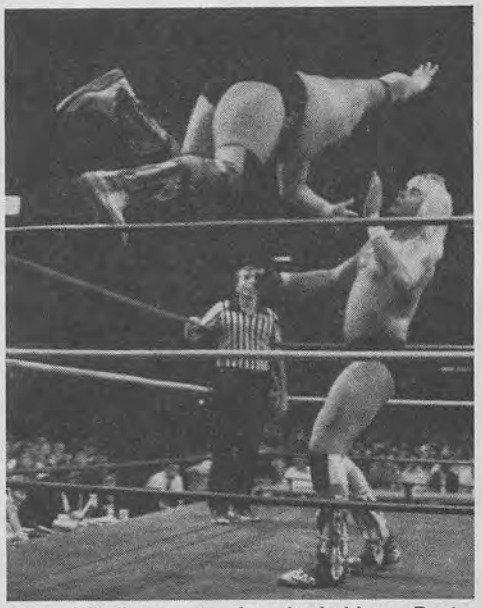


Stan Lane catches Tommy Rogers in an abdominal stretch (left); The Fantastics lay some double punishment on Lane's arm (above). After 2½ months, The Midnight Express regained the U.S. tag title they'd previously held for almost a year.

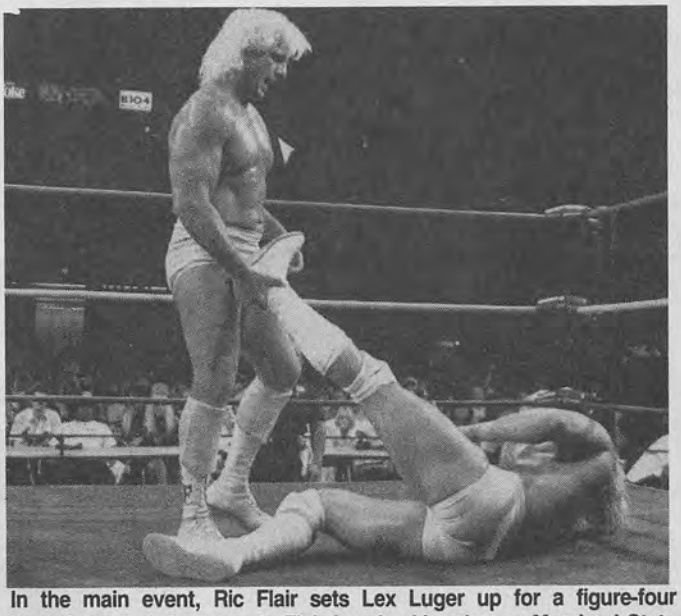
Photos by Roy London

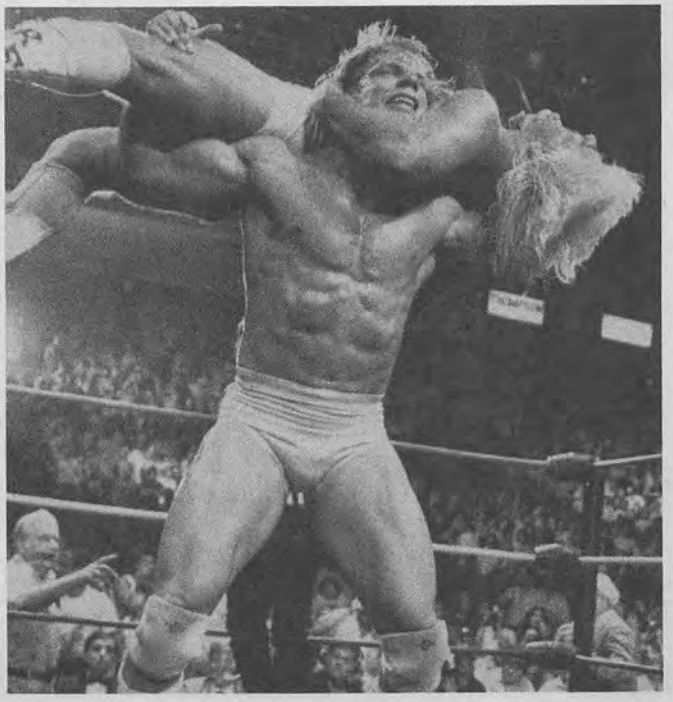


Jim Garvin belts Kevin Sullivan in the mouth during the unusual "Tower of Doom" cage match (above left). The Road Warriors try to get to Sullivan, not realizing that he is in fact locking *himself* in the cage because he wants Precious (above right).



Barry Windham gets the clawhold on Dusty Rhodes (left); Dusty surprises Windham with a flying bodypress (above). Windham retained the U.S. title—with Ronnie Garvin's help.

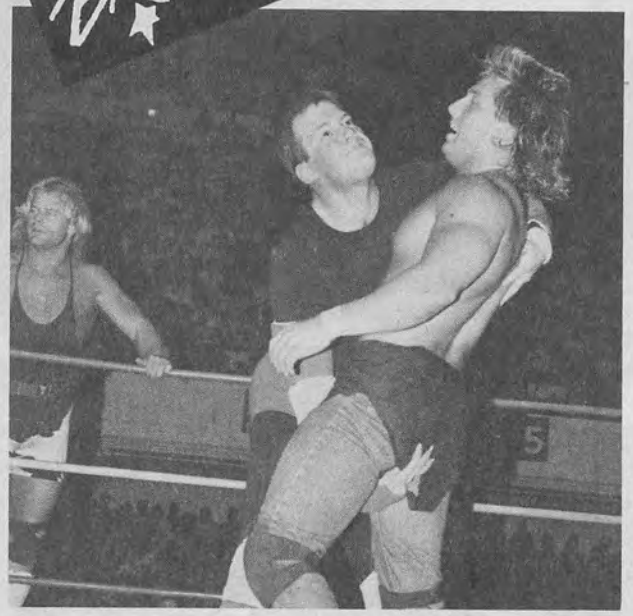




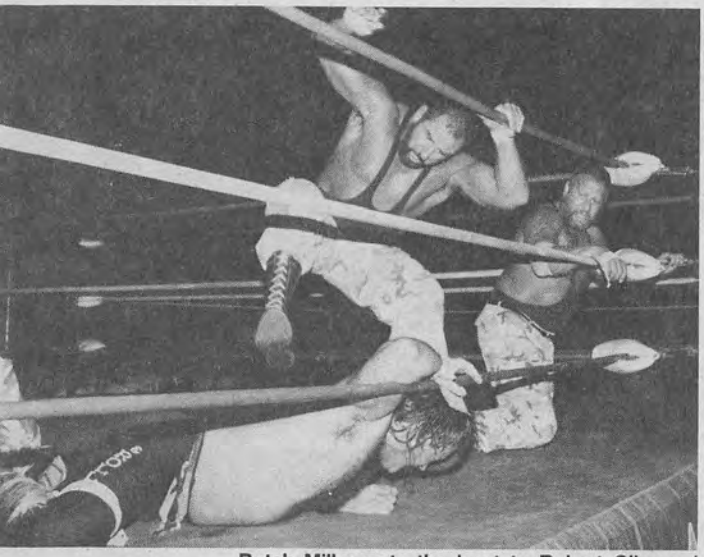
In the main event, Ric Flair sets Lex Luger up for a figure-four leglock (above). Luger puts Flair in a backbreaker as Maryland State Athletic Commission official Ray Ianucci motions for the match to be stopped (right). Flair escaped with his NWA World title.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

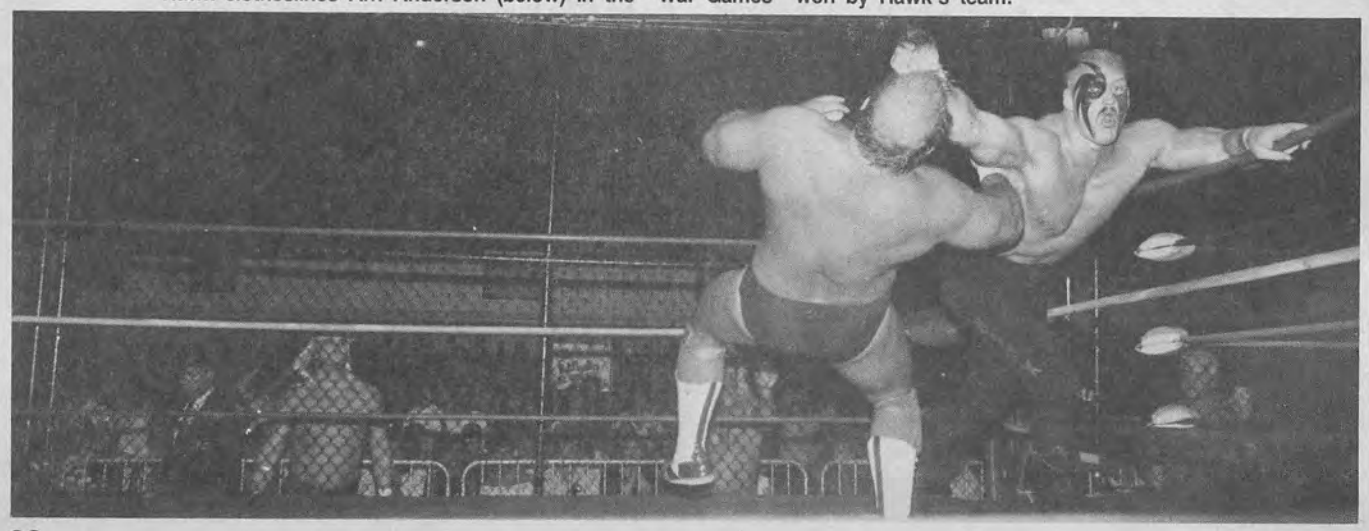
July 23, 1988



Jim Cornette tries with all his might to slam Tommy Rogers (left) as The Fantastics win another bunkhouse match. The Russian Assassin locks up with Steve Williams (above); "Dr. Death" and Jim Garvin defeated the Assassin and Ivan Koloff.



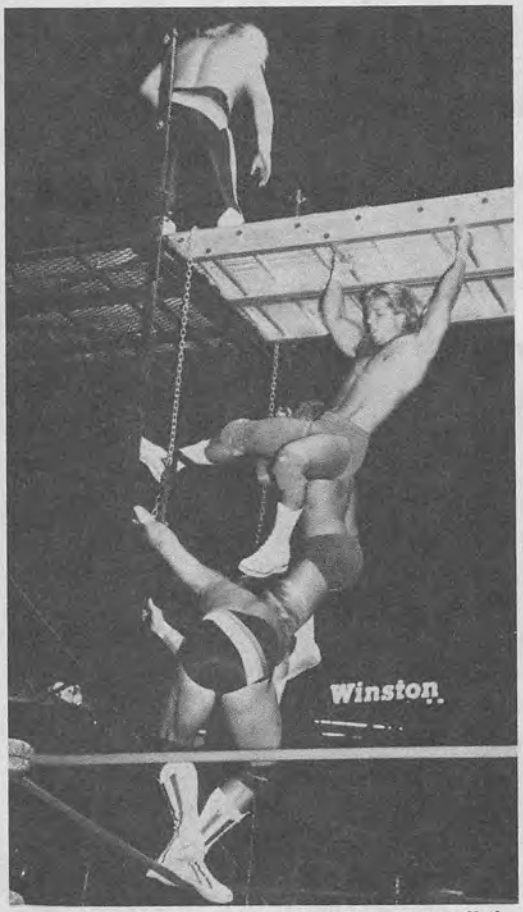
Butch Miller puts the boot to Robert Gibson (above left), but The Rock 'n' Roll Express won another battle with The Sheepherders. Mike Rotundo slugs Sting (above right); "The Stinger" won the match. Hawk clotheslines Arn Anderson (below) in the "War Games" won by Hawk's team.



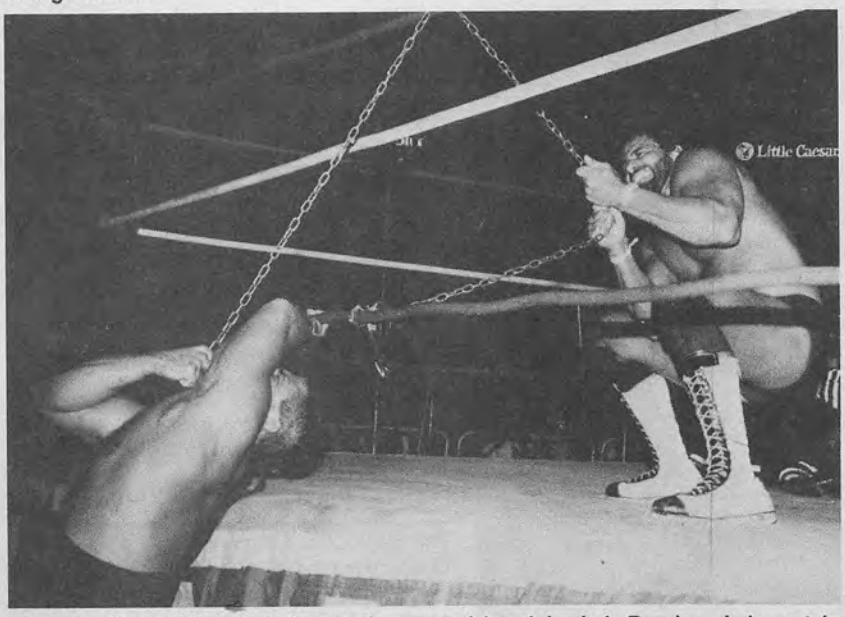
Photos by Roy London

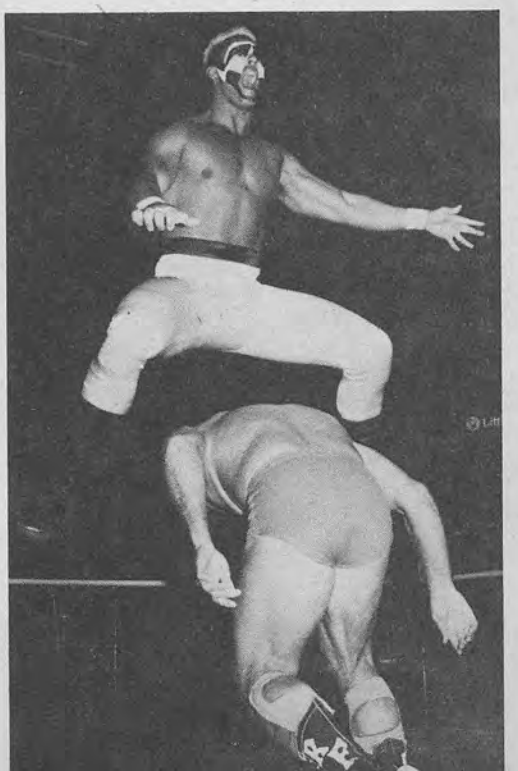
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
July 31, 1988

THE GREAT AMERICAN BASH



Tommy Rogers attempts to kick Stan Lane off the ladder (above) on the way to The Fantastics' scaffold match victory over the Midnight Express. The Sheik bloodies Dusty Rhodes (right) after teaming with him to beat Kevin Sullivan and Dick Murdoch in a cage match.



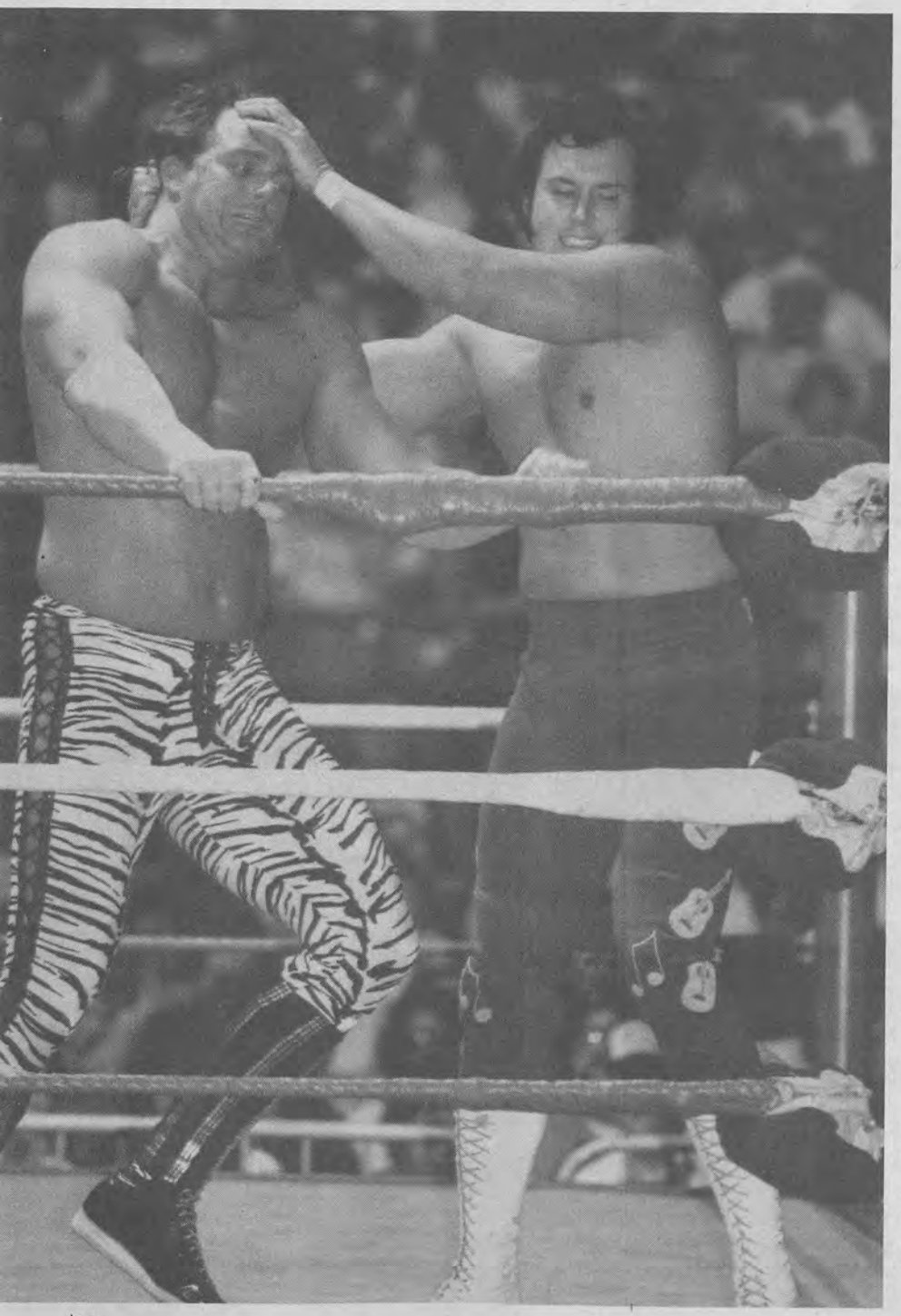


Al Perez hangs Nikita Koloff over the ropes (above) in their Russian chain match; Nikita won that bout. Sting leaps over Ric Flair (right); Sting, Lex Luger, and The Road Warriors beat The Four Horsemen.

Photos By Brad McFarlin

Honky Tonk Man vs. Brutus Beefcake:

THIS NEVER-ENDING FEUD *MUST END NOW!*



THE DOOR TO the locker room read "Authorized Personnel Only," so Managing Editor Craig Peters instinctively grabbed for the handle.

"Where do you think you're going?" the security guard said. "Can't you read, boy?"

"Yeah," Peters said caustically. "I'm a reporter. I'm authorized."

"Not tonight, son," the guard answered, holding his ground. "Brutus Beefcake wants no reporters tonight. Leave him alone."

"I understand," Peters said. Only moments before, Beefcake lost another match to WWF Intercontinental champion The Honky Tonk Man. This time, interference by Honky Tonk's manager Jimmy Hart provided the margin of defeat.

Sports Review Wrestling Assistant Editor Gersh Kuntzman joined Peters near the locker room entrance.

"What did Brutus say?" Kuntzman asked.

"He's too depressed to talk," answered Peters.

"Hold it right there," the guard jumped in. "I never said he was depressed, I just said he didn't want to talk to reporters."

"Probably because he has nothing new to say about Honky

The Honky Tonk Man pushes Brutus Beefcake's head into the turnbuckle. Beefcake not only wants to win Honky Tonk's Intercontinental title, he wants to cut off his carefully coiffed hair. And that may be part of the problem.

Tonk; he's been wrestling him for five months, already," said Associate Editor Dave Rosenbaum.

"You're right, this feud is getting ridiculous," said Kuntzman. "It's been over five months, they've wrestled, what, 50 times or more? Seems that way, anyway. And Beefcake hasn't been able to get the belt from Honky Tonk. And most of the time, Beefcake actually *beats* him!"

"Well, that's just the thing," Peters said. "*Beating* The Honky Tonk Man—*that's* the easy part. But *winning* the title from him might be the hardest thing in the history of the Intercontinental title!"

"Yeah, but you can't pin a guy *every* match!" Kuntzman said.

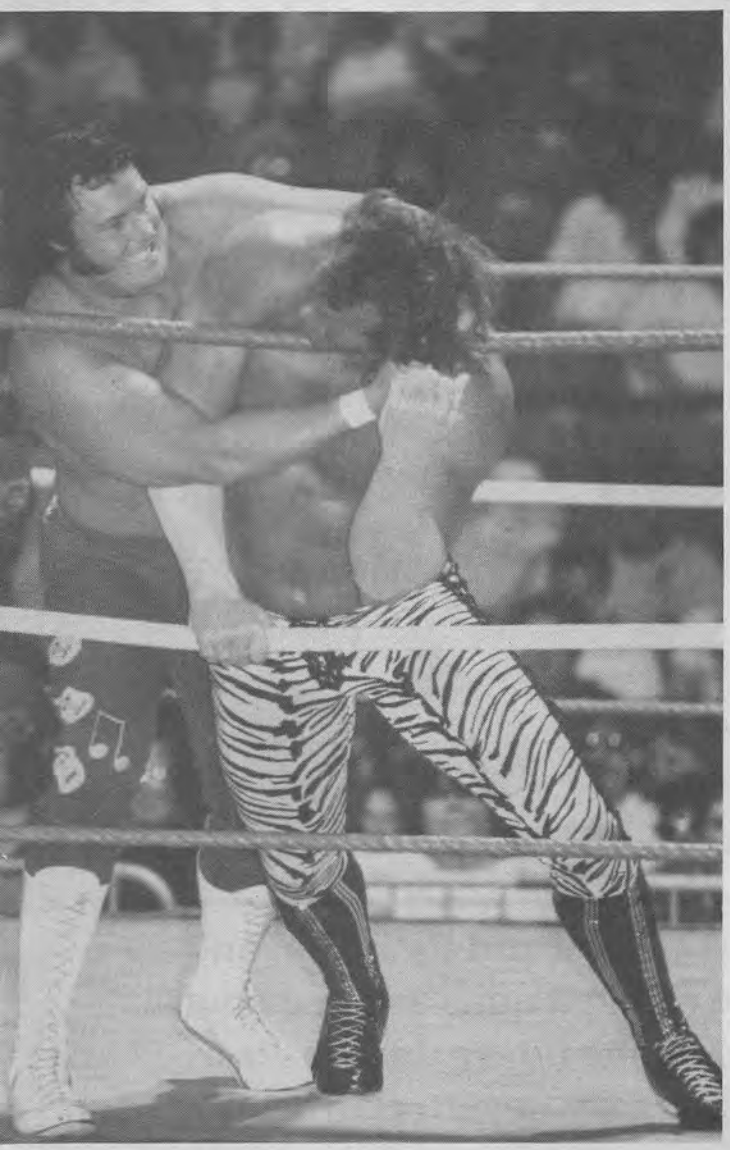
"Maybe not," Rosenbaum interrupted, "but Beefcake has had almost six months to do it. And no matter what the situation, Honky Tonk retains his title. Most of the time he gets disqualified or counted out, but sometimes he pins Beefcake outright, something Beefcake has *never* done to him!"

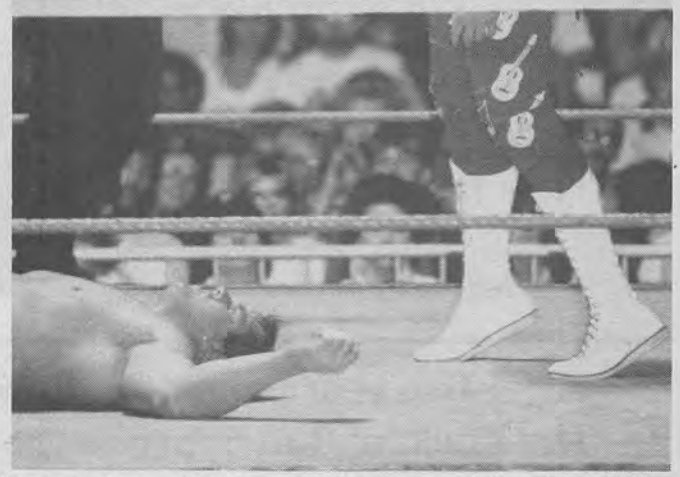
"In other words," Kuntzman concluded, "you're saying that Beefcake's had his chance and that this feud should end already."

"The feud has to end for two reasons," said Peters. "First, Brutus is a beaten man. He's had his chances and he's wasted them. The worst thing for wrestling

(Continued on page 60)

It's been going on since before WrestleMania IV and now it's lost much of its significance. It's the feud between WWF I-C champion The Honky Tonk Man and top challenger Brutus Beefcake. Beefcake has had more than enough opportunities to beat Honky Tonk, but hasn't—so enough already!





Honky Tonk uses the ropes to choke Beefcake (left) and targets him for a fistdrop (above). For more than six months, Beefcake has been receiving title shots at Honky. "The Barber" has won many of those matches, but by countout or disqualification, not pinfall.

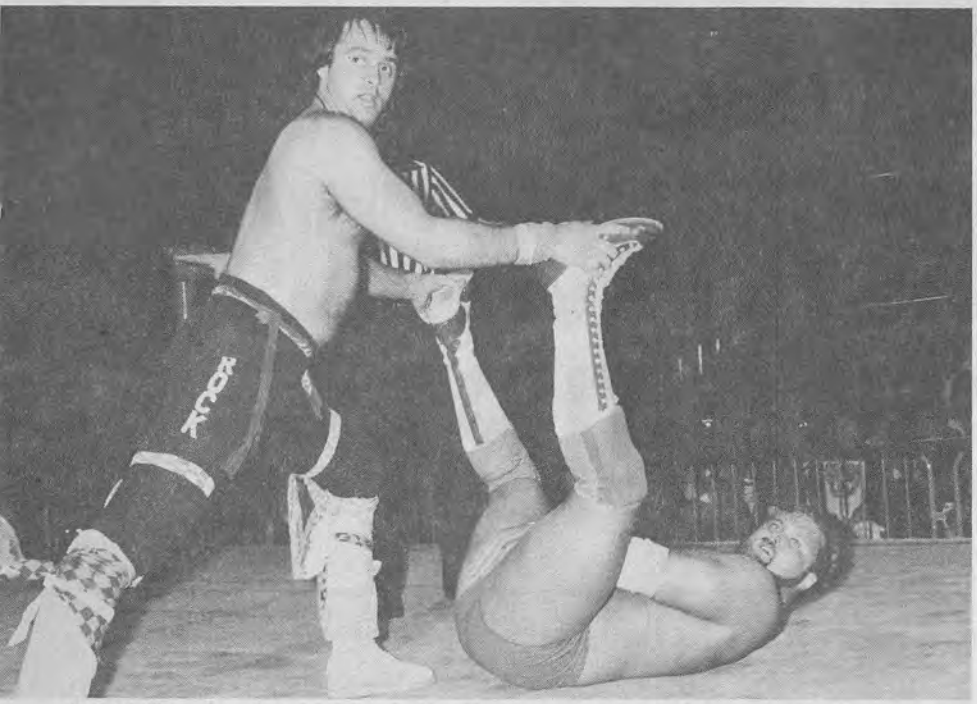
Photos by David Fitzgerald

THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS SPLITS UP!

Who's To Blame?

"IT'S THEM! IT'S them!" A host of teenage girls had been camped out near the press gate of Detroit's Cobo Hall for eight hours, a usual state of affairs at any arena where The Rock 'n' Roll Express is scheduled to appear. This gathering was led by pretty 18-year-old Dot Allanson, who calls herself the Motor City's "biggest Ricky Morton and Robert Gibson fan."

After five years together, Robert Gibson and Rick Morton—The Rock 'n' Roll Express—have called it quits as a tag team. Both men have set their sights on the future, but this is a parting from which many fans may never recover!



Robert Gibson makes a wish on Arn Anderson (above). Rick Morton gets the jump on Bobby Eaton (below). Morton and Gibson were angry because they claimed to be not getting any title shots at The Four Horsemen or The Midnight Express.

Allanson, a charter member of the duo's fan club, knows everything about her favorite tag team, including the make of automobile they usually travel in. When Allanson saw the car coming, she let out a delighted squeal as she anticipated meeting her beloved Express once again.

Morton emerged from the car, as usual taking time to greet his fans, sign a few autographs, and shake a host of hands as he made his way inside. This time, however, there was a difference. He was doing it alone.

"Where's Robert?" asked Allanson. "Is he injured or something?"

"Robbie's just fine," Morton replied softly. "I guess you folks haven't heard yet. Well, we aren't teaming anymore. The Rock 'n' Roll Express is over, at least for the time being."

With that, the party-like atmosphere of Morton's arrival turned somber. Morton simply said goodbye, hoisting his overnight bag over his shoulder and walking past his stunned group of fans to the security gate.

As Morton made his way into the arena, he couldn't see the stream of tears falling down Allanson's face, or hear her anguished question.

"Why?" she cried. "Things are never gonna be the same."

●

Thousands of wrestling fans were upset when Rick Morton and Robert Gibson left the NWA in January. One can't help but wonder how those people feel now.

The Rock 'n' Roll Express, as unbelieveable as it may seem, is finished. The four-time NWA World tag team championship team had accumulated one of the most dedicated and vociferous fan followings in the history of the sport, but even that wasn't enough to keep the popular team united. As of press time, Morton is going to stay in the

(Continued on page 62)

Now That They Dominate World Class...

KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH LOOK TO THE FUTURE

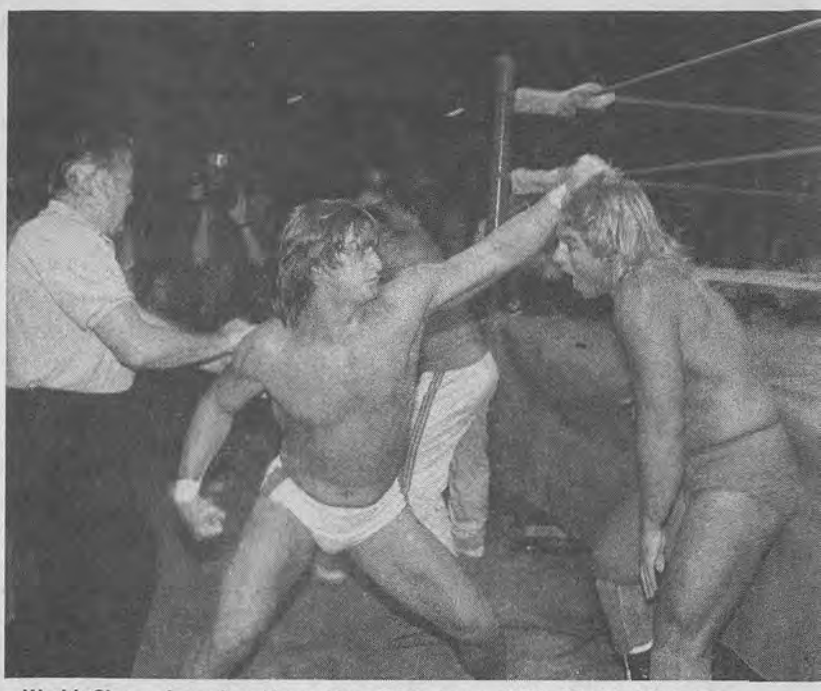
The Von Erichs have rallied to gain as solid a hold on the World Class scene as they've ever had. But Kevin and Kerry insist they have even higher plateaus in sight

KERRY VON ERICH is the World Class Wrestling Association heavyweight champion. Until recently, Kevin Von Erich was the World Class Texas champion (he's currently the number-one contender to champion Iceman Parsons). Together, the brothers are the World Class tag team champions.

Never before have the members of a single family dominated a wrestling federation like Kerry and Kevin Von Erich have dominated World Class in 1988. Not even in 1983 and 1984—the "glory years" when Kevin, Kerry, and the late David Von Erich were prominent on the national wrestling scene—did the Von Erichs enjoy such a firm grip on the roster of World Class titles.

There are very few competitors in the history of the sport who have overcome so much personal and professional tragedy in order to succeed. Within the space of three years, David and Mike Von Erich died, and Kerry's career was curtailed by a devastating motorcycle injury on June 4, 1986. Such misfortune would send lesser men into early retirement, but Kevin and Kerry pressed on. Now that they're enjoying the feel of championship gold around their waists, it might be easy for some to assume they'd rest on their massive Texas popularity.

Those who would assume anything about these particular men, however, don't know the Von Erichs



World Class champion Kerry Von Erich traps AWA World titlist Jerry Lawler in an abdominal stretch (left). Kevin Von Erich slugs Terry Taylor (above). Kerry goes after Iceman Parsons (below).

very well. Each of these competitors has definitive goals for their careers, as well as for the future of wrestling. They are still hungry athletes, striving for the best they can possibly achieve.

For Kerry, his current success is testament to the incredible fighting spirit that exists in the heart of this superbly muscled wrestler. Overcoming massive ankle and back injuries suffered in his accident, he has battled back not only to regain his status as one of the world's finest ring tacticians, but to win the World Class title twice during this year, most recently from Iceman Parsons at the fifth annual Parade of Champions in Dallas.

But the World Class title is not enough for Kerry. He has recently engaged in a series of incredibly hard-fought battles against AWA World champion Jerry Lawler. He's even gone so far as to put his World Class title up against Lawler's belt in many of these bouts.

"I consider the World Class belt an equal of the AWA title," said the soft-spoken Kerry after a bout against Lawler in Louisville, Kentucky. In that match, Kerry was disqualified for using a piledriver against Lawler, a maneuver that may have won him the title in Texas but is illegal in the CWA, the federation in which the match was sanctioned.

"Lawler is a great wrestler, and an honorable champion and person. I'm proud to get into the ring to compete against him. But the reason I want his title is because I want to help expand wrestling's horizons. I feel I'm just moving into the prime of my career right now, and I'd love to represent my federation as AWA World champion."

According to Kerry, World Class delivers a hard-hitting, exciting brand of wrestling that should be seen by more people. "The way I figure it, if I'm AWA champion, I can defend both that title *and* the World Class belts as one, singular title," he said.

"That way, more people will discover what World Class wrestling is all about."

As for Kevin, his goals are a bit closer to home. He looks at World Class and doesn't like what he sees, especially after Iceman Parsons defeated Kerry (a substitute for Kevin, who was nursing a foot injury) for his Texas title August 1 at Dallas' Sportatorium.

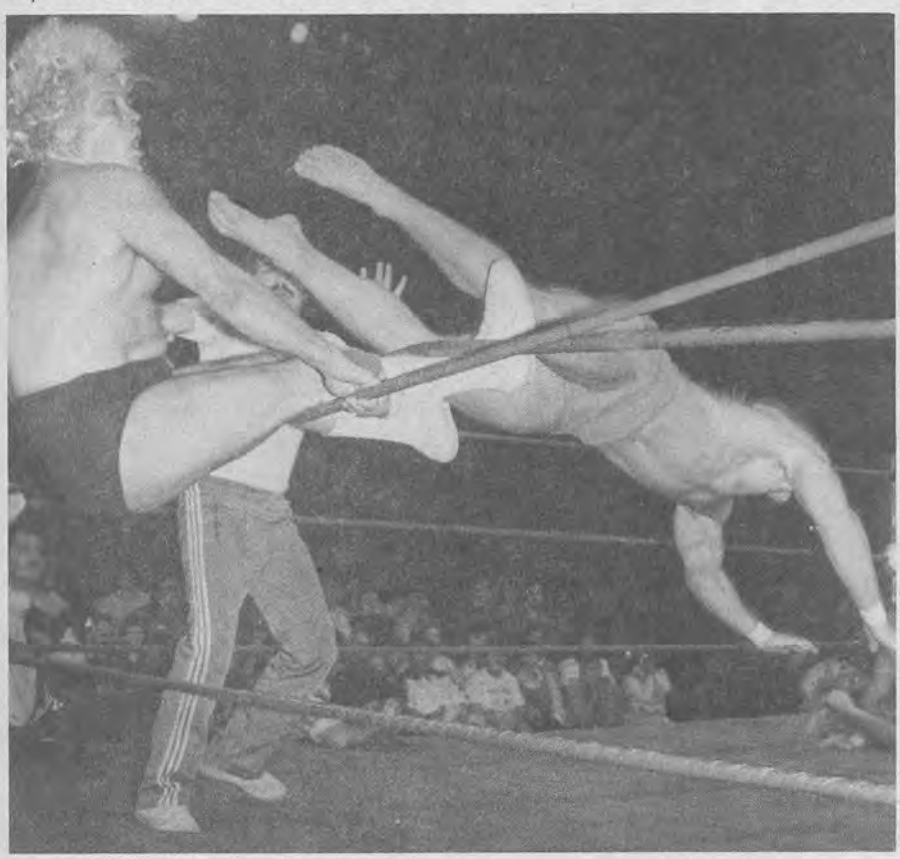
"It's not the style of wrestling I don't like," said Kevin, "I'm just not very happy with some of the wrestlers around here. I mean, I had injured my foot and couldn't defend my Texas title, so Kerry subbed for me. It was Gen. Skandor Akbar that really won the belt for Parsons. Then there's Kamala, John Tatum, and Buddy Roberts, who are all making life miserable not only for me and Kerry, but for the fans. I thought these people might have learned their lessons a long time ago, but it looks like I have more work to do."

Kevin aims to drive his enemies from the sport by defeating them one by one.

"I kind of look at myself as the policeman of World Class," he said with a laugh. "I recently had a private meeting with World Class matchmaker Frank Dusek. I'd wager that I'm the only man in Texas with an open contract. I told Frank that if any of the men who are terrorizing the area want a match with me, just let me know the time and place. I'll defeat them all until I've cleaned up the federation."

Despite their hectic schedules, there are certain matches that both Von Erichs look forward to with enthusiasm.

"That's when I get to defend the World Class tag team title with my brother Kerry," said Kevin. "Competing with my brother isn't the same as going into a regular match. Actually, it's a lot more fun. There are very few wrestlers who have a partner he can count on in the ring *and* at home, and I'm proud to say that I've been blessed with just that."



Kevin dropkicks Buddy Roberts (left). Kerry, substituting for Kevin, accidentally hits referee Bronco Lubich when Parsons ducks (bottom left). Kerry is stunned after losing the Texas belt for his brother (above).

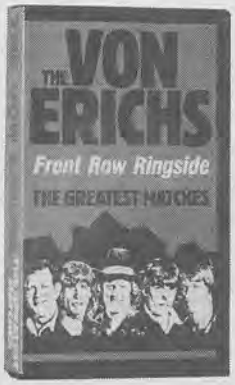
"Boy, he's not kidding," laughed Kerry when informed of his brother's comments. "The only problem is that I wish we could wrestle together more often. But I know that if I'm patient, we will."

Patience has been a virtue that has enabled the Von Erichs to thwart the many obstacles placed in their path to success. Even though they've established themselves as World Class legends, Kerry and Kevin still hunger for more.

With their track record, it would be foolish to bet against them. □

A VON ERICH EXTRAVAGANZA!

The Von Erich family has long been known as "The First Family Of Professional Wrestling." Now, a deluxe-quality videotape and collectors' edition hardcover book bring all the excitement, drama, tragedy, and triumph of the Von Erichs into your home!



THE VON ERICHS: FRONT ROW RINGSIDE is an up-close and personal look at the Von Erich legend culled from the extensive video library of World Class Championship Wrestling and featuring at-home interviews with Kerry, Kevin, Mike, and Fritz. This program will be a valuable addition to your videotape collection. (Sorry, VHS format only is available in this special offer.) Included in this sensational 70-minute tape:

- The entire June 1, 1982, Fritz Von Erich no-disqualification retirement match against King Kong Bundy.
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- The entire May 6, 1984, bout in which Kerry Von Erich captured the NWA World title from Ric Flair at Texas Stadium in front of 43,518 fans.
- Highlights of Mike Von Erich's November 24, 1983, debut match against Gen. Skandor Akbar, and a battle against John Tatum.
- Rare footage of Chris Von Erich; Fritz vs. Joe Blanchard; David spanking Sunshine; six-man action featuring Mike, Lance, & Kevin, and David, Kevin, and Kerry; and Mike's hospitalization from toxic shock syndrome.

THE VON ERICHS: A FAMILY ALBUM is a magnificent history of the *entire* Von Erich family in words and pictures. Subtitled "Tragedies And Triumphs Of America's First Family Of Wrestling," the book chronicles Fritz, Doris, Kevin, David, Kerry, Mike, and Chris—plus rare photos of Jack—in over 100 black-and-white photographs and 32 pages of dazzling color photography. Many of these photos are from the Von Erich personal family scrapbooks (including many baby photos and school portraits) and have *never* been published anywhere—until now! This beautifully designed hardcover volume measures 8½x11 and is 128 pages in length. You'll be proud to add this to your personal library.

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 7)

that the rumors are true! Gibson has left Morton to continue his career as an independent. Although I wish him luck, I don't know what Morton will do. Certainly teaming with Brad Armstrong will not wash away the fond memories the fans have of his partnership with Gibson.

I must admit that I'm a little down about all this. Since the letter campaign to bring the Express back to the NWA was so successful, maybe we can start another one to bring back Robert Gibson! It's worth a try.

PERRY RIANHARD
Branford, CT

BAD TREATMENT

I was very disappointed when I read your article on the AWA's Bad Company in your September 1988 issue ("Overlooked, Underrated . . . And Lethal!"). It disturbed me to see how little respect is given these fine wrestlers. A lot of fans reject them because they think Paul Diamond and Pat Tanaka are rulebreakers. They're not. In fact, they're so good and end their matches so quickly, there's usually not even enough *time* to break the rules.

I just wish more of the world knew more about them. To me, they are the finest tag team in the world. They're exciting to watch because they don't rely entirely on brutality and bulk; they have aerial skills and great teamwork. That makes them a refreshing change from teams like The Road Warriors, Demolition, The Powers of Pain, and Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson.

Bad Company is certainly a team to reckon with. They have skills that transcend the senseless brutality and brawn that have so often become a trademark among tag teams. I'd wish them luck, but they don't need it!

HELEN WEYLER
Edina, MN

JUSTICE IS DONE

I was so relieved to hear that Continental official Ron West has suspended Eddie Gilbert and manager Paul E. Dangerously for beating up Willie B. Hert Jr., for beating up photographer Sam Lowe, and for throwing fire at referee John Keaton and Austin Idol.

It's about time a federation took a stand against such violence. If only *all* federations would band together to wipe out extreme and senseless violence, the ring might once again be a place where men meet one-on-one to honorably decide who really is the better wrestler.

Gilbert's a wrestler of great talent, but he too often allows his brutality to

(Continued on page 44)

Paul Diamond of Bad Company slams Greg Gagne. Reader Helen Weyler calls Diamond and Pat Tanaka, the AWA World champions, the finest tag team in the world.

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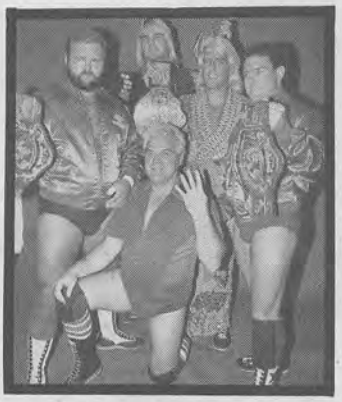

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MAILBAG

(Continued from page 42)

get the better of him. The burnings were only the beginning. Once he saw that he would not be punished, he continued on his Satan-spawned deathride to rulebreaking.

If Continental had only made an example of Gilbert when he first came to their area, maybe more wrestlers (like Dirty White Boy) would learn to respect the rules of this great game.

ROGER WILLIAMS
Warwick, RI

A HISTORIAN SPEAKS

I was so happy to see your September 1988 special section ("The Greatest Madison Square Garden Matches Ever!") because it gave me a chance to take a fond look back at some of the great matches in the history of the mat sport.

For me, it was especially enjoyable because I have been a wrestling fan for at least 30 years. For me, wrestling is a sport with a great history, a history all too often forgotten by the younger, Vince McMahon-influenced fans.

Leafing through those pages was like taking a refreshing trip back to the neighborhood in which you grew up. You see, I've been at most of those Garden cards you wrote about. I loved reliving the Bruno Sammartino matches that I had witnessed. I still consider Sammartino the greatest wrestling champion of all time.

You did me quite a favor, allowing me to go back in time. Wrestling has certainly changed since then. I'm not saying it's worse, only different. Sometimes I *do* pine for the old days, but doesn't everybody? Thanks again.

LAWRENCE GARDNER
New York

CHAMPIONSHIP EGO

Let's face facts: Hulk Hogan is acting like a jerk! All the interviews I've seen, all the rumors I've heard, and all the allegations of impropriety point to only one thing: Hogan has a phenomenally large ego. Let me explain.

The formation of The Megapowers (Hogan and WWF World champion Randy Savage) could be a great thing. The only problem is that Hogan wants to dominate the team, as if it's he, not Savage, who is the current champion.

And then he acts as if Elizabeth is his rightful manager. It seems to me that since she is Savage's exclusive manager, she might have something to say about that. Certainly "The Macho Man" should also, but he is too busy trying to keep peace with Hogan to step between the ex-champion and Elizabeth.

Hulk Hogan leads the cheers for Randy Savage and Elizabeth, but reader Paul Lombardo thinks "The Hulkster's" intentions are less than honorable.

Hogan should let Savage keep what is his and concentrate on destroying his enemies Andre the Giant and Ted DiBiase. He's only going after Elizabeth because he has such a dangerously large ego. Cut it out, Hulk, for the good of The Megapowers!

PAUL LOMBARDO
Stamford, CT □

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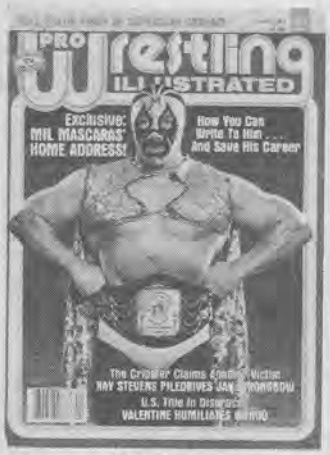
August 1982/COLOR PINUP: Dino Bravo. **Steamboat & Rich**, Andre, Martel, Piper, Blassie.

October 1982/COLOR PINUP: Jerry Lawler. **Ric Flair**, Rhodes, Graham, Race, Funk Jr.

January 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ken Patera. **Rick Steamboat**, Rich, Brody, Sullivan, Backlund.

February 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Putski. **Rhodes vs. Garvin**, Snuka, Super Destroyer, Bockwinkel, Funk.



APRIL 1983

April 1983/COLOR PINUP: Superstar Graham. **Mil Mascaras**, Valentine, Orndorff, Hart.

June 1983/COLOR PINUP: Cowboy Bob Orton. **Rick Martel**, Von Erich, Slaughter, Muraco.

July 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich**, Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.

August 1983/COLOR PINUP: Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper**, Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

October 1983/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Tommy Rich**, Johnson, Adonis, Rhodes, Piper.

November 1983/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR PINUP: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel**, Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine**, Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

June 1984/COLOR PINUP: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase**, Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR PINUP: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant**, JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler**, Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich**, Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter**, Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana. **Road Warriors**, Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR PINUP: Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel**, Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

April 1985/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin, **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

June 1985/COLOR PINUP: Barry Windham. **Dusty Rhodes**, Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, T.A.

July 1985/COLOR PINUP: Sgt. Slaughter. **Hogan vs. Piper**, Warriors, One Man Gang, T.A., Martel.

September 1985/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A**, Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR PINUP: Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat**, Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

November 1985/COLOR PINUP: Randy Savage. **Ric Flair**, Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

December 1985/COLOR PINUP: Jesse Ventura. **Great American Bash**, Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

January 1986/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Hulk Hogan**, T.A., Brody.

February 1986/COLOR PINUP: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich**, Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

APRIL 1986

April 1986/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter**, Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

May 1986/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Road Warriors**, Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.

June 1986/COLOR PINUP: Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan**, Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

July 1986/COLOR PINUP: King Kong Bundy. **R & R Express**, Hall and Hennig, Ventura, Warriors.

August 1986/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage**, Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

October 1986/COLOR PINUP: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff**, Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

November 1986/COLOR PINUP: Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs**, Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

December 1986/COLOR PINUP: Great American Bash. **Great American Bash**, Midnight Rockers, Von Erich, Windham.

January 1987/COLOR PINUP: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper**, Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

February 1987/COLOR PINUP: Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament**, T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

April 1987/COLOR PINUP: Lex Luger. **Dusty & Nikita**, DiBiase, DeBeers, Dingo, WWF Housecleaning.

May 1987/COLOR PINUP: Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan**, UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

June 1987/COLOR PINUP: Hulk Hogan. **Magnum T.A.**, Can-Ams, Warriors, Freebirds, Hall.

July 1987/COLOR PINUP: Midnight Rockers. **Steamboat-Savage**, Luger, Duggan, Garvins, Sting.

August 1987/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Precious. **Hogan-Andre**, Warriors, Windham-Flair, Gordy, Bigelow.

October 1987/COLOR PINUP: Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair**, Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

November 1987/COLOR PINUP: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff**, Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.

January 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase**, Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

February 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage**, Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

April 1988/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger**, Flair-Garvin, Kerry, Survivor Series, Iron Sheik.

May 1988/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Andre**, Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.

June 1988/COLOR PINUP: Tully Blanchard. **Hulk Hogan**, Muraco, Perez, Rockers, Bunkhouse Stampede.

July 1988/COLOR PINUP: Curt Hennig. **Hogan vs. Andre**, Express vs. Rockers, Beefcake, Perez, Rotundo-Sting.

August 1988/COLOR PINUP: Al Perez. **Savage & Hogan**, Gilbert-Lawler, Four Horsemen, Kerry Von Erich.

October 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ultimate Warrior. **Sting**, Savage, Lawler, Williams, Steamboat, Varsity Club.

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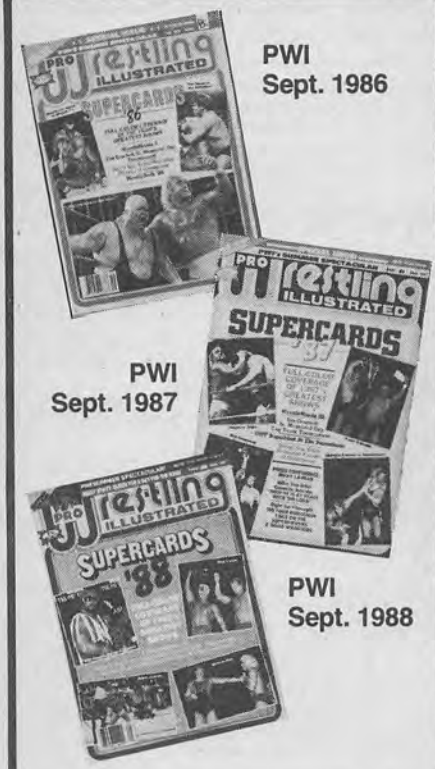

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For the past three years, the September cover-dated "SuperCards" editions of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* have set new standards for wrestling journalism. Bonus pages, special 12-page color sections, and peerless analysis of the annual spring "SuperCards" make the September editions of *PWI* true collectors' items. We have limited supplies of these newsstand sellouts, and they're sure to go fast. Only $5.00 each. Order today!

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GREAT AMERICAN BASH

(Continued from page 27)

in North Carolina. The event has grown into a happening that annually sees a title or two change hands, a wrestler or two go bad, and more than a fan or two be surprised by it all.

But there was more than wrestling at the Bashes. Country & western singer David Allan Coe, a featured guest each year since the first Bash, performed in Charlotte and Greensboro and had several of the wrestlers join him on stage. Coe is a big fan of the NWA, and is just one of the people who make the Bashes the special events they are.

For the first time ever, the Bashes this year began not in July, but in June. On June 26 in Orlando, Florida, the NWA kicked off its celebration of our nation's birthday with a tremendous night of action. Then, all through July, fans across the land got to see why the NWA is home to some of the best wrestling anywhere. The Four Horsemen, Dusty Rhodes, The Midnight Express, Sting, Lex Luger, The Fantastics, The Road Warriors, Steve Williams—these are just some of the athletes who make wrestling in general (and the Bashes in particular) the unmatched spectacle it is.

The Bash's only title change occurred at the Baltimore Bash, where The Midnight Express regained their U.S. tag team title from The Fantas-

(Continued on page 48)

Country and western star David Allan Coe is joined by Rick Morton as he performs at the Bash in Greensboro, North Carolina (above). The fans give their "hands down" to The Four Horsemen (below).

BACK ISSUES OF THE Wrestler

VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

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September 1982/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.

October 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.

December 1982/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

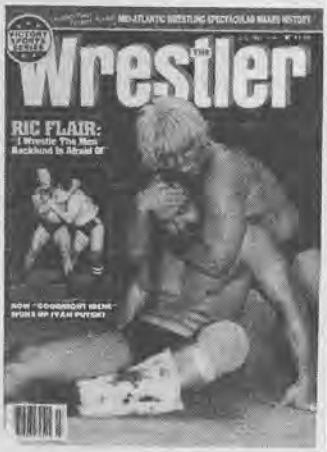
January 1983/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.

February 1983/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.

April 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.

May 1983/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.

June 1983/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.



JULY 1983

July 1983/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.

August 1983/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.

September 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Briscos.

October 1983/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Briscos, Bass.

November 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.

December 1983/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.

January 1984/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.

April 1984/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.

May 1984/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.

June 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.

July 1984/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.

August 1984/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.

September 1984/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.

October 1984/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.

November 1984/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.

December 1984/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.

January 1985/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.

February 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.

March 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.

April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.

May 1985/Stories include: Warriors. Backlund, Santana, Rich.

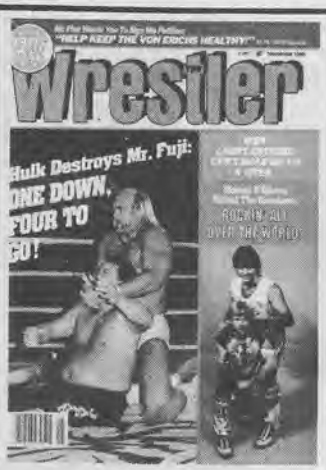
June 1985/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.

July 1985/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.

August 1985/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.

September 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.

October 1985/Stories include: Flair, Windham, Shultz, Martel.



NOVEMBER 1985

November 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Zbyszko, R&R Express, Von Erichs.

December 1985/Stories include: Rude, Fantastics, Muraco, Uncle Elmer.

January 1986/20th Anniversary Issue! 10 Greatest Wrestlers, Rhodes, Hogan, Sammartino.

February 1986/Stories include: Hogan, Orndorff, Flair, Hansen.

March 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Duggan, Hansen-Martel.

April 1986/Stories include: Von Erich, Rude, Lugar, Hogan, Magnum T.A.

May 1986/Stories include: Zbyszko, Von Erichs, Santana-Ventura, Hillbillies.

June 1986/Stories include: Lugar, Hernandez, Flair-Bockwinkel, Hogan, T.A.

July 1986/Stories include: King Kong Bundy, Koloff vs. Graham, Ric Flair.

August 1986/Stories include: Snuka, Bulldogs, Freebirds, Warriors, Duggan.

September 1986/Stories include: Fantastics, Adonis, Morton-Flair, Brody.

October 1986/Stories include: Nikita-Magnum, Nord, Bruno, Kerry, Windham.

November 1986/Stories include: R&R Express, Hogan-Orndcrff, Von Erich.

December 1986/Stories include: Flair, Bockwinkel, Hogan, Gilbert, Nikita.

January 1987/Stories include: Heenan, Garvins, DiBiase, Borne & Sawyer.

February 1987/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Gordy, Steamboat-Roberts.

March 1987/Stories include: Windham, Nikita, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

April 1987/Stories include: Hogan, Luger, Rich-Lawler, R&R Express.

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July 1987/Stories include: Cornette, Hyatt, Luger, Harts, Adams, Hansen.

August 1987/Stories include: Can-Ams, Luger vs. Nikita, Fantastics, Koko, Nord.

September 1987/Stories include: Koloffs, Harts, Duggan, Hennig, Hart.

October 1987/Stories include: Savage-Honky Tonk, Horsemen, Patera, Kerry.

November 1987/Stories include: Williams, Luger, Hogan-Khan, Rich.

December 1987/Stories include: Hogan, Windham, Lawler, Flair, Beefcake.

January 1988/Stories include: Nikita-Taylor, Warriors, DiBiase-Duggan.

February 1988/Stories include: Flair, Andre-Hogan, New Breed, Kerry.

March 1988/Stories include: Hogan, Luger-Sting, Calgary, Demolition.

April 1988/Special issue! Starrcade '87, Survivor Series, AWA & World Class. Also: Strike Force, Luger, Rockers.

May 1988/Stories include: Horsemen, Hogan, Flair, Fantastics, DiBiase.

June 1988/Stories include: Sting-Flair, DiBiase, Kerry, Nikita, Zenk.

July 1988/Stories include: Fantastics, Hogan. Windham, McMahon, Rich.

August 1988/Stories include: Savage, Windham-Luger split, Demolition, Lawler, Ellering.

September 1988/Stories include: Duggan vs. Andre, Hogan, Windham.

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AMERICAN BASH

(Continued from page 46)

tics, even though their manager, Jim Cornette, was tied up in a straitjacket and suspended in a cage above the ring. Still, Bobby Eaton and Stan Lane used underhanded tactics: Eaton pinned Bobby Fulton after hitting him with a chain he pulled out of his tights. Nevertheless, the Express is an outstanding team primed for a long title reign. In addition, they must be commended for challenging Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson for the NWA World tag title.

Perhaps the most shocking event of the Bashes also occurred in Baltimore when Ronnie Garvin turned his back on his fans. Long one of the most liked and respected men in the sport, Garvin sold out his friend Dusty Rhodes for a fast buck (a *lot* of fast bucks, actually) courtesy of J.J. Dillon and Gary Hart. In the Bashes that followed, Garvin stepped into the ring against such fan favorites as Chris Champion and Mighty Wilbur. Ironically, the "new" Ronnie Garvin is something like the "old" *Jim* Garvin. So once again, the Garvin family is torn apart, with Precious caught in the middle. And this time their differences may be irreconcilable.

The Bashes of '88 also featured The Tower of Doom, a bizarre three-tiered cage in which two teams of five battled in a war of attrition. The first Tower of Doom in Baltimore ended in a showdown between Jim Garvin and Kevin Sullivan. The prize: the affections of Precious, who had been acting very strangely

The Road Warriors face off against The Russian Assassin and Ivan Koloff on the scaffold. Hawk and Animal won.

for several months. With the help of Road Warrior Hawk, Garvin "won back" his wife and valet, but Sullivan is a quirky character who doesn't easily give up . . . or forget.

This summer also saw the return of War Games/The Match Beyond, a brutal contest that was the highlight of the 1987 Bashes. There were several War Games held, which was bad news for J.J. Dillon, who promised last year that he would never actively wrestle again after being injured in the first-ever War Games. But he was back in 1988, and in two War Games Dusty Rhodes forced him to submit.

Jim Garvin, Hawk, and Animal see that it's a long way up to the Tower of Doom. Garvin would win his war with Kevin Sullivan.

The dangerous Skywalker scaffold matches are a Road Warrior specialty. As two of the most fearless competitors in the world, Hawk and Animal think nothing of climbing 20 feet above the mat and slugging it out on a narrow plank. They had themselves fired up to face The Powers of Pain, but those two fled the NWA at the thought of wrestling the Warriors on a scaffold. Paul Jones was forced to substitute hardy veteran Ivan Koloff and newcomer Russian Assassin for the Powers, but they were easily overmatched by The Legion of Doom.

Action. Drama. Controversy. This is what wrestling is all about, and it's what The Great American Bashes showcase—wrestling excitement at its finest! □

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FALL 1985/Color pinup: Steve Keirn & Stan Lane. **Stories include:** Albano & Hogan, DiBiase, Warriors, Garvin.

WINTER 1985/Color pinup: Barry Windham. **Stories include:** Hogan, Zbyszko, Kerry, R&R Express, Steamboat, Thesz.

SPRING 1986/Color pinup: The Road Warriors. **Stories include:** Martel, Savage vs. Poffo, Hogan, Santana, Steamboat.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinup: Rock 'n' Roll Express & Magnum T.A. **Stories include:** Flair, Warriors, JYD, Magnum, Williams.

FALL 1986/Color pinup: Randy Savage. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Missy, Roberts, Windham, Luger, Rhodes.

WINTER 1986/Color pinup: Hulk Hogan. **Stories include:** Flair, Freebirds, Hogan, Andre, Watts, Haynes, Fantastics.

SPRING 1987/Color pinup: The Four Horsemen. **Stories include:** Ventura, T.A., Bulldogs, Adias, Savage-Steamboat.

SUMMER 1987/Color pinup: Road Warriors workout. **Stories include:** Hogan-Andre, Rockers, Koloff, Warriors, Hall-Luger.

FALL 1987/Color pinup: Dark Journey. **Stories include:** Albano, Hogan, T.A., Lane, Hyatt, Hennig, Luger.

WINTER 1987/Color pinup: Jesse Ventura. **Stories include:** Kerry, Rhodes, Hogan, Flair, Honky Tonk, DiBiase.

SPRING 1988/Color pinup: Elizabeth. **Stories include:** Hennig, Koloff, Savage, Strike Force, Warriors, Andre-Hogan.

SUMMER 1988/Color pinup: Missy Hyatt. **Stories include:** Rock 'n' Roll Express, Hogan, Sting, Luger, Owen Hart, Animal.

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WE ACCUSE

(Continued from page 14)

Gary Young, with Fuller occupying a prominent place at ringside. Just as Travis had begun dominating Young, the entire Stud Stable rushed to the ring to interfere. This was not your average run-in: This was a brutal seven-on-one attack. While Young and Jimmy Golden held Travis down, Senshe and Tojo Yamamoto attacked him with canes and steel chairs.

Although Scott Steiner, Jeff Jarrett, and Max Pain finally ran the perpetrators out of the ring, Fuller's goal had been achieved.

The second match of the night featured Downtown Bruno—usually the Stud Stable manager—against Karate Kid, a midget star. During the match, Sylvia, the Stable valet, interfered by tripping the Kid. This gave Bruno the advantage he needed. He began pummeling the midget, yet twice refused to accept a winning three-count. When it appeared that the Kid had nothing left, Sylvia entered the ring and punched the beaten midget. Then Fuller himself joined the action by piledriving the Kid, whose only solice would be the win by disqualification. Some solace.

The main event on the card was Tommy Gilbert vs. CWA champion Phil Hickerson, another member of Fuller's stable. In this match, it was Fuller's distraction of Gilbert that allowed Hickerson to pull a chain out of his trunks, a chain that would eventually provide the margin of victory. Hickerson's use of the chain was a bitter reminder of his CWA title win over Max Pain.

Three matches, three brutal incidents. Except for the cries of "foul" from CWA announcer Lance Russell, no official response was issued from the CWA. This is the sad reality of wrestling today.

We are not condemning the actions of Fuller and his stable. It's not their fault if they take full advantage of the laughable manner in which the CWA enforces its rules. Every time Fuller orders his wrestlers to interfere, he knows that no punishment is forthcoming.

That's the problem.

When a child misbehaves, he is punished so that he will not do wrong again. The purpose of the punishment is not only to make the guilty party suffer, but to set an example. Without setting an example, a parent (or wrestling federation, for that matter) is showing that they themselves don't respect the rules they have set up. In effect, they are saying, "You're right, these rules are stupid. Go ahead, run all over them."

Robert Fuller and his valet Sylvia repeatedly break the rules, but are not punished by the CWA. Most federations are guilty of lax enforcement of the rules.

This is a dangerous attitude. If the federations don't collectively take strong measures to stop such actions, run-ins and brutal interference will become so entrenched in wrestling that it will become the norm, not the exception. And regulating the problem will be impossible. ☐

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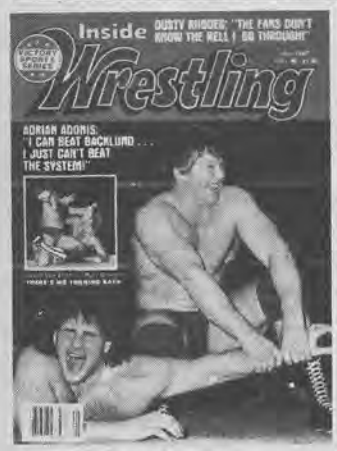

MAY 1982

May 1982/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Hogan, Von Erich.

June 1982/Stories include: Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.

July 1982/Stories include: Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.

August 1982/Stories include: Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.

September 1982/Stories include: Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

October 1982/Stories include: Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.

November 1982/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.

December 1982/Stories include: Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.

February 1983/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.

March 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.

April 1983/Stories include: Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.

May 1983/Stories include: Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.

June 1983/Stories include: Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.

July 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.

August 1983/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.

September 1983/Stories include: Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.

October 1983/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.

November 1983/Stories include: Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.

December 1983/Stories include: Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.

March 1984/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.

April 1984/Stories include: Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.

May 1984/Stories include: Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.

June 1984/Stories include: Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.

July 1984/Stories include: Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.

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January 1985/Stories include: Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.

February 1985/Stories include: Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.

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April 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.

May 1985/Stories include: Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.

June 1985/Stories include: Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.

July 1985/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.

August 1985/Stories include: Wrestlemania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.

September 1985/Stories include: Piper Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.

October 1985/Stories include: Russian menace, Von Erichs, Rude & Barr.

November 1985/Stories include: Steamboat, Adams, Freebirds, Cornette.

December 1985/Stories include: Santana, Brody, Andersons, Murdoch.

January 1986/Stories include: Steamboat, Mike Von Erich, Warriors.

February 1986/Stories include: R'n'R Express, Warriors, Mulligan & Windham.

MARCH 1986

March 1986/Stories include: Windham & Rotundo, Warriors-Russians, Rude.

April 1986/Stories include: Scott Hall, Rhodes, Flair, Andre, Bill Watts

May 1986/Stories include: Randy Savage, Stan Hansen, Rock 'n' Rolls.

June 1986/Stories include: Bulldogs, Windham-Flair, Lance Von, Blanchard

July 1986/All-American Special Issue. Stories include: Hogan, Slaughter, T.A.

August 1986/Stories include: WrestleMania 2, Garvins, Martel, Fab Ones.

September 1986/Stories include: Andre,Rhodes-T.A., Adams, Windham.

October 1986/Stories include: Flair-Lugar, Savage, Fantastics, Warriors.

November 1986/Stories include: Warriors-Flair, Bulldogs, Watts, Adams.

December 1986/Stories include: Hogan-Adonis, R&R Express, Baby Doll.

January 1987/Stories include: Rude-Flair, Piper, T.A., Taylor.

February 1987/Stories include: Hogan-Piper-Orndorff, Taylor, Flair.

March 1987/Stories include: Flair, Missy, Luger, Bulldogs, Koloffs.

April 1987/Stories include: Windham, Steamboat, Ellering, Duggan.

May 1987/Stories include: Windham & Luger, Steamboat, Hogan-Andre.

June 1987/Stories include: Piper-Adonis, Horsemen, Adams, Hall, Brody.

July 1987/Stories include: Danny Davis, DiBiase, Rockers, Rotundo, Andersons.

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December 1987/Stories include: Freebirds, Rhodes, Magnum, Savage, Perez.

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February 1988/Stories include: Savage, Kevin Von, Sting, Tully & Arn.

March 1988/Stories include: Bigelow, Adams, Koloff, Honky Tonk, Freebirds.

April 1988/Stories include: Luger-Flair, Ultimate Warrior, Andre-Hogan-DiBiase.

May 1988/Stories include: Zbyszko, DiBiase, Warriors, Rockers, Fritz Von.

June 1988/Stories include: Warriors, Savage, R&R Express, Baby Doll.

July 1988/Stories include: Hogan-Savage-DiBiase, Kerry & Hayes, Sting.

August 1988/Stories include: Savage, Missy Hyatt, Sting, Hayes, Honky Tonk.

September 1988/SPECIAL ISSUE: Color coverage of WMIV, Parade of Champs, Crockett Cup. Plus: Lawler, Von Erich, Hart, Cornette.

INSIDE WRESTLING

☐ MAY 82	☐ JULY 84	☐ JUNE 86	☐ MAY 88
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WINTER 1985

SUMMER 1986

SPRING 1984/Color pinups: Superstar-Bravo, Adrian Street, Hansen-Race, Valiant-Kabuki. **Stories include:** Warriors, Kerry Von Erich, Bockwinkel, Santana, Hansen.

SUMMER 1984/Color pinups: Patera-Gagne, Windham-Bart, Bundy-Garvin, Koloff-Mosca. **Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Flair-Race, Adams-Garvin, Snuka, Idol, Orndorff.

FALL 1984/Color pinups: Haynes-Nagasaki, Kabuki-Kamala, Steamboat-Slater, Blanchard-Colon. **Stories include:** Hogan, David Von Erich, Flair-Brody, Blanchard.

WINTER 1984/Color pinups: Michael Hayes, Flair-McDaniel, Gilbert-Rich, Haynes-Funk. **Stories include:** Kerry Von Erich, Martel-Bockwinkel, Piper, Flair-Steamboat.

SPRING 1985/Color pinups: Animal-Funk, Poffo-Gilbert, Nikita-Fernandez, Garvin-McDaniel. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan, Albano, Rhodes, Sullivan.

SUMMER 1985/Color pinups: Kerry-Flair, Hawk-Lawler, Funk-Slater, Nikita-Rhodes. **Stories include:** Valentine, Windham & Rotundo, Warriors, Flair-Race, Nikita.

FALL 1985/Color pinups: Adams-Kevin Von Erich, Zbyszko-Backlund, Lawler-Brody, Blanchard-T.A. **Stories include:** Von Erichs, Warriors, Hogan-Volkoff, Freebirds.

WINTER 1985/Color pinups: Flair-Kevin Von Erich, Hayes-Hawk, Hogan-Fujinami, DiBiase-Roberts. **Stories include:** Orndorff, Warriors, Brody, Shultz, Duggan.

SPRING 1986/Color pinups: Windham-Sullivan, Andre-Bundy, Taylor-Landell, Hernandez-Kerry. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Warriors, Hogan, Santana, Rude, Williams.

SUMMER 1986/Color pinups: Luger-Barr, Garvin-Flair, Nord-Hawk, Missy-Sunshine. **Stories include:** Warriors-Russians, Savage-Hogan, Kevin Von Erich, Bulldogs.

FALL 1986/Color pinups: Kirchner-Volkoff, Nikita-Hawk, Morton-Flair, Nord-Hennig. **Stories include:** R&R Express, Luger, Savage, Bulldogs, Hansen, Rude, Williams.

WINTER 1986/Color pinups: Rude-Von Erich, Khrushchev-Mantel, Hogan-Adonis, Bockwinkel-DeBeers. **Stories include:** Supercards, Hogan-Orndorff, Horsemen, Snuka, Von Erich.

SPRING 1987/Color pinups: Steamboat-Zulu, Roberts-Hillbilly, Morton-Anderson, DiBiase-Hayes. **Stories include:** Bigelow, Flair, Hogan, Luger, Race, Windham, Hyatt.

SUMMER 1987/Color pinups: Roberts-Kamala, Von Erich-Perez, Morton-Koloff, Snuka-Zukhov. **Stories include:** Windham, Elizabeth, Superpowers, Williams, Albano, Von Erich.

FALL 1987/Color pinups: Animal-Lane, Bigelow-Inoki, Sullivan-Hall, Ware-Honky Tonk. **Stories include:** Midnights, Flair, Steamboat-Savage, Luger, Piper, Hogan-Andre.

WINTER 1987/Color pinups: Tama-Santana, Perez-Steamboat, Rhodes-Flair, Gordy-Gilbert. **Stories include:** Luger-Nikita, R&R Express, Hart, Hogan-Race, Hyatt, Lawler.

SPRING 1988/Color pinups: Jason-Hart, Konga-Sting, OMG-Santana, Von Erich-Adias. **Stories include:** Warriors, Hogan-Andre, DiBiase, Honky Tonk, Magnum T.A., War Games.

SUMMER 1988/Color pinups: Von Erich-Roberts, Sting-Rotundo, Misty-Dallas, Reed-Muraco. **Stories include:** Luger, Hogan-Andre-DiBiase, Ellering-Dillon-Cornette, Hennig, Bigelow, Hyatt, Rude.

FALL 1988/Color pinups: Santana-Smash, Warlord-Hawk, Adams-Taylor, Hennig-Lawler. **Stories include:** Luger, Hogan, DiBiase, Kerry & Hayes, Sting, Savage.

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INTERVIEW

(Continued from page 22)

Diamond executes a neckbreaker on Greg Gagne. One of Diamond's goals is to win the AWA TV title held by Gagne.

Q: I've never believed that claim. You three always say you've run all the other teams out of the AWA, but there are some good ones still after you.

PT: Yeah, but look at everybody that's *not* here anymore. Where's The Midnight Rockers? They were afraid of getting hurt, so they took a hike. Where's The Rock 'n' Roll Express? They realized they were no competition, so they split.

PD: Where's The Nasty Boys? Where's that Japanese tag team that was supposed to be so great? Nobody wants to have anything

to do with us, because they know they're gonna get their butts handed to 'em.

Q: What about Ricky Rice and John Paul, The Top Guns? They've given you all you could handle, and so have Hector and Mando Guerrero.

DP: They're nothin'. Ain't no competition here, and if we don't start getting some stern challenges, we may just retire these belts and take a cruise with a bunch of my gorgeous Diamond Dolls.

Q: What's the purpose of these women at ringside, anyway? First you were accompanied by a girl you called "Dolly" for a few months, but lately there's been a continuous string of valets. What do these women do to help the tag team, other than inspire wolf whistles from the male fans?

PT: Everything. They assist us with our travel plans, and they also perform other administrative duties.

Q: Like what?

DP: Hey, don't be so nosy! The function of the Diamond Dolls is *our* business. Just drop the subject.

Q: Fine. Now that you've garnered your first world title, what are you looking toward in the months ahead?

PT: *Total* domination. We want to control the entire wrestling scene in the AWA.

PD: That's right. There are two other titles here, Jerry Lawler's World title and Greg Gagne's International TV title. Well, Pat's going after Lawler, and I've got my sights set on Gagne. We want to own all of the titles in the AWA.

DP: That's right! Then after we get all the gold, maybe I'll have one of the Dolls go after Madusa Miceli's women's title! Then, we'll *really* be the kings of the world! *(laughs)* But seriously, there's no reason we can't beat two talentless slugs like Lawler and Gagne, who both should be contemplating retirement, anyway. Just wait and see if we don't do it. □

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MEMO TO ALL FEDERATIONS

(Continued from page 25)

This doesn't mean that Rozelle and Ueberroth know more about football and baseball than the fans. They probably don't.

And they don't have to. They only have to be fair. But leave important decisions to the fans? You've gotta be kidding!

***

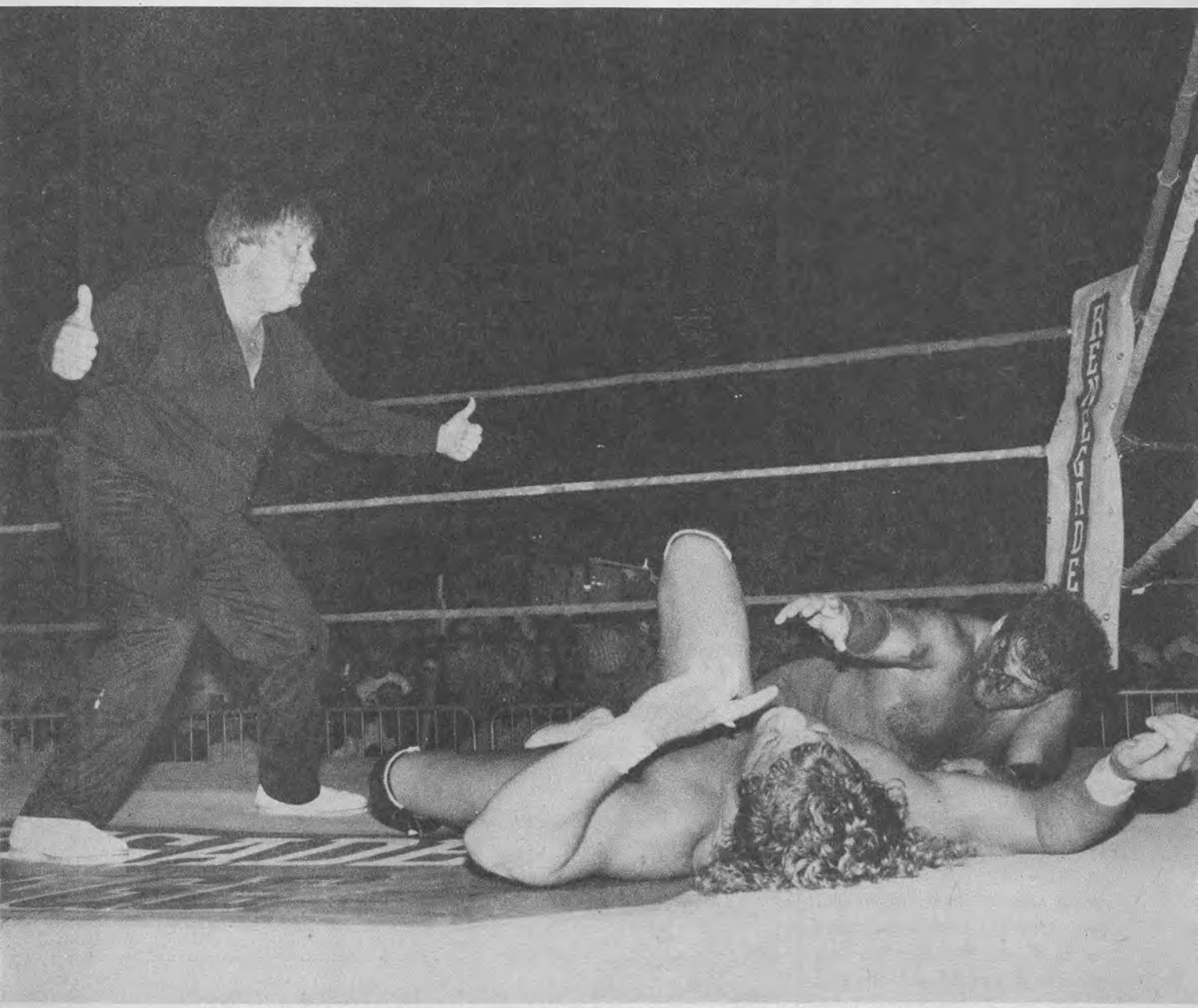
Back in April, Jerry Lawler signed for a May 9 match in Memphis against then-AWA World champion Curt Hennig. A dispute developed, however, over who should referee the match. Lawler wanted his good friend Jackie Fargo, a longtime Memphis favorite. Curt Hennig wanted his father, Larry "The Ax" Hennig, to wear the stripes.

So, in an unusual move, the fans were asked to pick the referee by a special phone-in vote.

Forget the fact that this important title match should have been officiated by an *impartial* referee, not the friend or father of one of the participants. That's obvious.

But let's face it: Larry Hennig had little hope of winning the phone-in balloting. Although Curt was accused of "stuffing" the ballot box, he couldn't offset Lawler's huge CWA following. Fargo was named referee. And while he showed no favoritism, Lawler won his first world title under somewhat questionable conditions.

Of more serious concern is the cur-



Jerry Lawler rolls over to make the cover on Curt Hennig and win the AWA World title. The referee for that match was Jackie Fargo, a friend of Lawler's who was chosen as ref by a special fan poll. The decision as to who would officiate the bout would have been better made by a CWA official.

rent situation in the Continental Wrestling Federation, where Paul E. Dangerously and Eddie Gilbert are in danger of being suspended for life. Continental official Ron West recently suspended Gilbert and Dangerously for beating up Willie B. Hert Jr. and photographer Sam Lowe, and for throwing fire at Austin Idol and referee John Keaton.

Few could dispute that Dangerously and Gilbert earned their punishment, but at Willie B. Hert Sr.'s request, West lifted the suspension for two weeks (Hert explained that he wanted to get revenge on his own). Then West announced that he would let the fans decide by write-in vote whether Dangerously and Gilbert should be suspended for *life*.

Gilbert and Dangerously are two of the most hated men in the CWF. At the fans' mercy, do they stand a chance?

***

When fans officiate, officials stop being officials.

People who stand on their seats and scream at the top of their lungs during the heated moments of a match are expected to be impartial? "Kill the bum, Jerry!" they cry. "Hey, Dangerously, somebody oughta get rid a you forever!" they scream.

These are taken to be the voices of reason. Does this make any sense?

Suddenly fans have a duty. No longer are they expected to watch wrestling for enjoyment and relaxation. Now they're supposed to take part in the sport's decision-making process. Officials such as Ron West and Eddie Marlin are paid large salaries to do their job, so why do they insist on pawning off their responsibilities?

West and Marlin are setting a dangerous precedent that, we hope, will not be followed by officials of other federations. Jack Tunney, Stanley Blackburn, and Jim Crockett don't have to make the perfect decision every time, but they do have to make *a* decision.

They're impartial. They're experienced. They're trained to do a job.

And they, not the fans, should do it. □

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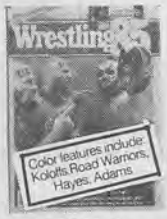

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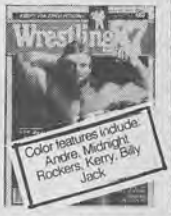

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INQUIRING REPORTER

(Continued from page 12)

Iceman Parsons doesn't want Roberts to get into an argument with Gordy. After Hayes split from The Freebirds, Roberts and Gordy tried to make Parsons a part of the group. Later, Gordy went back to teaming with Hayes.

both Buddy *and* Michael. I'm sure he'd be much happier if all three of the Freebirds were back together to stay, but I think he's finally realized that's an impossibility. The way Roberts has been sneak-attacking everybody in sight lately, there's no way Terry can have anything to do with Buddy anymore. I can really sympathize with the big guy."

Kim Christina, Dallas: "I'd be a fool not to support Michael Hayes at this point. I was in the audience on July 4 at the Sportatorium when Roberts got up in the ring, called Hayes out of the dressing room, and practically begged him to be friends again. Hayes almost fell for it, too, but it was all a plot for Tafuli and Samu to blindside Hayes and beat him until he was unconscious. I'm glad that Hayes has recruited Steve Cox to help him in his war against Hayes, and with those two, the Von Erichs, Gordy, and Steve Casey rallying against Roberts, I'm sure it won't be long until Roberts turns yellow and leaves Texas for good. As for Gordy, he's been helping the Simpsons in their war against Jack Victory and John Tatum, so he's got my support, too."

Camilla Donovan, Asher, OK: "I don't care about *any* of The Freebirds, because I don't think any of them can hold a candle to the Von Erichs as far as proving their worth to the fans. Hayes is handsome, sure, but he's going to have to wrestle more people than just Buddy Roberts to get my cheers. I don't know how Kevin and Kerry can trust any of those guys after all that's gone on between them. The Von Erich-Freebird feud was the bloodiest in the history of World Class, and as far as I'm concerned it's not over yet. I can't wait for the Von Erichs to wise up and dump Hayes, then set their sights on getting rid of Hayes, Gordy, and Roberts. Anything else is just treading water."

Susan McGuire, Latham, NY: "There's nobody in the sport of professional wrestling that's any sexier that ol' 'P.S.' Hayes, and I'm one of his biggest fans. I'm a member of his fan club, I've worn out two copies of his *Off The Streets* album, and I don't care *who* he wrestles. He's bigger and badder than either Gordy or Roberts, but at least Gordy has wised up and has joined Hayes against Buddy, who is scared to death of Michael. That little blond runt is ripe for the picking, and Hayes is going to be the one to emerge as the only victor in this battle." ☐

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February 1980/Rhodes-Funk, Race, Spoiler, Brisco.
May 1980/Koloff-Anderson, Brody-Spoiler, Graham, Andre.
July 1980/Bruno-Graham, Samoans, Star Wars 1980.
October 1980/Hogan, Flair, Wrestling II, Super D.
January 1981/Morales-Fuji, Zbyszko, Thornton, Keirn.
June 1981/Morales-Khan, Lawler, Slater, Piper.
September 1981/Backlund-Mosca, Freebirds, Flair, Rich, Junkyard Dog.

October 1981/Rich-Race, Hogan-Hansen, Moondogs, Freebirds, Putski-Koloff.
November 1981/Rhodes-DiBiase, Steamboat, Mulligan, McDaniel, Spoiler.
December 1981/Muraco-Morales, Patera, Steele, Andre.
March 1982/Valentine, Brisco-Funk, Steele, Flair, Hayes.
April 1982/Spoiler, Idol-Hayes, Morales, Super D, Ladd.
May 1982/Rich-Flair, Backlund, Superstar, Dillon, Wrestling II.
June 1982/Tommy Rich, Jimmy Snuka, Wrestlers rate each other.
July 1982/Steamboat-Idol, Albano, Rhodes, Patera.
August 1982/Piper-Rich, Flair-Slater, Rhodes, Valentine, Bockwinkel.
October 1982/Funk-Abdullah, Orton, Kabuki, Von Erich.
November 1982/Piper, Abdullah, Saito, Von Erich, Mascaras.
December 1982/Backlund-Rose, Rhodes-Flair, Albano, Humperdink.
January 1983/Rich, McDaniel-Valentine, Patera, Brisco, Bockwinkel.
February 1983/Flair-Race, Morales-Rose, Patera, Bravo, Spoiler.
March 1983/Flair-Bass, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat, Patera.
April 1983/Backlund-Graham, Briscos, Rhodes, Hogan, Samoans.
May 1983/Muraco, Dillon, Sullivan, Reed, Brisco, Von Erich.
June 1983/Piper, Bockwinkel-Patterson, Brody, Sullivan, Baba.
July 1983/Valiant-Humperdink, Martel, Hernandez, Murdoch, Armstrong.
October 1983/Martel-Valentine, Mulligan, Lawler, Von Erichs, Bruno.
November 1983/Andre-Mulligan, Kamala-Brody, Slater, Backlund.
December 1983/Windham-LeDuc, Santana, Sullivan, Garvin.
January 1984/Andre-Abdullah, Bockwinkel, Gilbert, Windham, Flair, Mosca.
February 1984/Rich-Sawyer, Idol-Hansen, Martel, Parsons, Von Erich.
March 1984/Starrcade '83, Closeups on Atlanta and Dallas cards.
April 1984/Von Erich-Gordy, Dillon & Nagasaki, Graham, DiBiase, Orndorff.
May 1984/LeDuc-Sawyer, Assassins, The Men Who Make Wrestling Fly!
June 1984/Windham-Flair, Gilbert, Sawyer, Bockwinkel, Tsuruta.
July 1984/Flair-Gordy, Duggan, Blanchard, Brisco, AWA tag tourny.
August 1984/Rich & Gilbert, Adams-Hayes, Von Erich, Faces Of Wrestling.
September 1984/Flair-Steamboat, Freebirds-Von Erichs—Special coverage of two big cards.
October 1984/Sullivan-Rhodes, Freebirds video, Atlas, Orange Bowl card.
November 1984/Von Erich & Billy Jack, Andre, Fab Ones, Summer Wars!
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January 1985/Flair-McDaniel, Missing Link, Backlund, Fabulous Ones, *Pro Wrestling USA*, Valentine.
February 1985/Sullivan-Graham, Hernandez & Nicola Roberts, Bruno Jr., Steamboat, Warriors.
March 1985/Starrcade '84 featuring Flair, Rhodes, Steamboat, Koloffs, 1985 Datebook, Hayes, wrestling school.
April 1985/Von Erich-Blackwell, Haynes-Barr, Hart, Irwins, 1984 in Pictures, Blair.
May 1985/Albano, Freebirds-Flair, Steamboat, Hernandez, Las Vegas.
June 1985/Pro Wrestling U.S.A, Von Erich, Richter, Windham, Taylor.
July 1985/Von Erich, WrestleMania, bloodiest matches, Backlund, Snuka.
August 1985/Flair-Nikita, Orndorff, Slaughter, Parade of Champions II.
September 1985/Adams-Von Erich, Orndorff, Sawyer, Kamala, Barr.
October 1985/Martel-Hayes, Richter, Savage, Adams, T.A., Warriors.
November 1985/Freebirds-Warriors, Mid-South, Haynes, Rhodes, Savage.
December 1985/Hogan, Zbyszko-Martel, Murdoch, Dillon, fiendish faces.
January 1986/Savage-Santana, Abdullah, Humongous, Von Raschke, Comiskey Park, Taylor.
February 1986/Junkyard Dog, Rude, Patrick, Garvin, Reed, Datebook.
March 1986/Starrcade '85, Ventura, Windham, Sunshine, Slaughter.
April 1986/Savage-Hogan, Martel-Hansen, 1985 in Pictures, Warriors, DiBiase.
May 1986/Sammartino, R&R Express, Sunshine-Hyatt, Slater, Devastating Holds, Hall & Hennig.
June 1986/Hogan-Muraco, Midnight Express, Freebirds, Battle of Belts II.
July 1986/Orndorff-Piper, Blanchard-T.A., Matches of '80s, Sheepherders, Bockwinkel, Bulldogs.
August 1986/Crockett Cup Tourny, Jake Roberts, Midnight Rockers, Von Erichs, Wrestling II.
September 1986/Bulldogs, Blanchard-Gibson, Lugar, Dundee, UWF tourny.
October 1986/Orndorff, Rude-Brody, Bash, Bockwinkel, Gordy, Adams.
November 1986/Andersons-R&R Express, Machine, Gordy, Managers.
December 1986/Machines, Fantastics, Warriors, WWF Muchnick Tourny.
January 1987/Russians, Hyatt-Dark Journey, WWF Top 50, Fab Ones.
February 1987/Road Warriors,Savage, Windham & Lugar, 1987 Datebook.
March 1987/Kamala-Hogan, Starrcade 86, Atlas, Williams, Tatum.
April 1987/1986 In Pictures, Kevin Von, Flair, Rich, Hennig-Bockwinkel.
May 1987/Nikita-Flair, Bulldogs, Albano's career, Snuka-DeBeers, Taylor.
June 1987/Hogan-Andre, Hall, Parsons, Garvin, WWF title history.
July 1987/Midnight Express, Savage-Steamboat, Adams, NWA in Boston.
August 1987/Nord-Kevin, Armstrong-Flair, Hogan & Patera, Crockett Cup.
September 1987/Hogan, Akbar, Luger-Nikita, Summer Feuds, charity shows.
October 1987/Windham, Bigelow, Bockwinkel, Western States tourny.
November 1987/Bash, Honky Tonk, Hart, Sheepherders, Condrey.
December 1987/Grappling Ghouls, Hogan-Andre, Luger-Nikita, Boesch card
January 1988/Honky Tonk, Garvin, T.A. career, Arcidi, Hogan.
February 1988/Rhodes, Strike Force, Rich-Adonis, Hyatt, 1988 datebook.
March 1988/Starrcade, Survivor Series, Simpson, Hennig, Zbyszko.
April 1988/1987 In Pictures, Tully & Arn, DiBiase, Kerry, Orton.
May 1988/Hawk-Flair, Andre-Hogan, Dangerously, Duggan, Mike George.
June 1988/Luger-Tully, DiBiase, Adams, NWA New York invasion.
July 1988/Savage wins WWF tourney, Rockers-Express, Hayes, Dusty-Rider.
August 1988/Luger and Sting win Crockett Cup, Savage-DiBiase, Nasty Boys, Ultimate Warrior.
September 1988/Predictions Through 1998, Williams, Rhodes, Bad Company, greatest Garden matches.

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TATTLER

(Continued from page 8)

DALLAS, TX: Despite never stepping into the ring, Kevin Von Erich lost his World Class Texas title to Iceman Parsons here August 5.

This unusual turn of events was made possibly by a WCCW rule allowing champs to use a substitute. Kevin, who wrestles barefoot, broke his right big toe 10 days before the match when he kicked Kamala. So Kerry Von Erich substituted and was pinned by Parsons.

"The toe is healing," Kevin said, "but there's no way I would've been able to wrestle. But somebody had to substitute for me or else I would've had to forfeit the belt. Win or lose, I couldn't think of a better replacement than my brother."

Kevin wasn't even permitted at ringside for the match while Parsons' manager, Gen. Skandor Akbar, *was* allowed there. As it turned out, this stipulation cost Kerry the match—and Kevin the title.

Iceman and Kerry were exchanging closed-fist punches in the corner of the ring and referee Bronco Lubich tried to break them up. Iceman ducked a punch and Kerry accidentally struck and knocked out Lubich. Akbar then climbed onto the ring apron and hit Kerry with a foreign object, knocking him out, too. Iceman covered Kerry as Lubich got up and made the three-count.

"The only thing I don't understand is why Akbar was allowed to be at ringside but my brother wasn't," Kerry said. "After all, it's Kevin's title, so he should be there to help me defend it. If they think it's okay for that slimeball Akbar to be at ringside but not my brother, there's something very wrong."

Kerry's World Class heavyweight title was not at stake. Kerry and Kevin are still the WCCW tag team champions.

—Andrew Ray

ICEMAN PARSONS VS. KERRY VON ERICH

IDOL VS. LAWLER

MEMPHIS, TN: CWA officials are considering suspending AWA World champion Jerry Lawler for piledriving referee Jerry Calhoun during a title match against Austin Idol at the Mid-South Coliseum here. Lawler was disqualified for his actions, but retained his belt.

"Mr. Lawler intentionally and with intent to injure piledrived Mr. Calhoun," said CWA official Eddie Marlin. "While Mr. Lawler has always upheld the highest standards of integrity in the ring and this is a most unusual incident, we feel that we cannot ignore it. Abuse of referees is a serious problem that must be dealt with."

Lawler, however, claimed that he had ample reason to piledrive Calhoun. "It was the heat of a title match and he was getting in the way," Lawler said. "A referee's job is to officiate. To do that, he doesn't have to stand on top of the wrestlers. Look at the tapes! Check out how many times Calhoun kept me from doing what I wanted to do!"

Lawler and Idol had a wild feud in 1987 and exchanged the Mid-Southern belt several times. But Idol has since turned his back on manager Paul E. Dangerously and become one of the most popular wrestlers in the Continental area.

"I don't have anything against Jerry Lawler anymore," Idol said. "He's the champ and I respect him, but I don't respect manhandling officials."

—Randy Swift□

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HONKY TONK VS. BEEFCAKE

(Continued from page 35)

would be if Beefcake actually *did* pin Honky Tonk. It would be so obvious that it really wasn't Brutus' *ability* that beat Honky, but that it was just the law of averages at work. After 100 matches, Beefcake would have to win at least one, right? So at this point, a Beefcake victory isn't wrestling, it's mathematics."

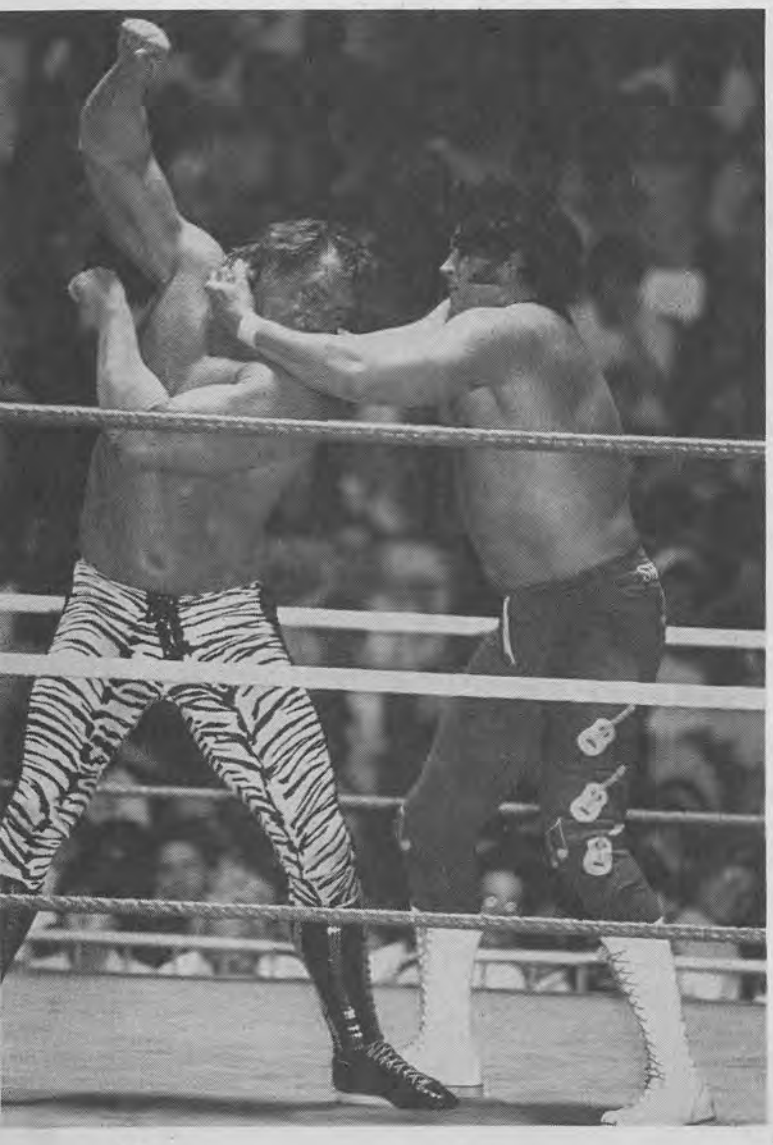
"You're right," Rosenbaum added. "And just look at Beefcake. He has the mood of a man who *knows* he's beaten. It's that simple. When he sees Honky Tonk walk away with the belt, he has to feel powerless. And feeling powerless is the worst thing that can happen to a wrestler."

"The other reason the feud must end," Peters continued, "is because at this point, The Honky Tonk Man simply doesn't care anymore. You know Honky Tonk. As long as he keeps the belt, he's happy."

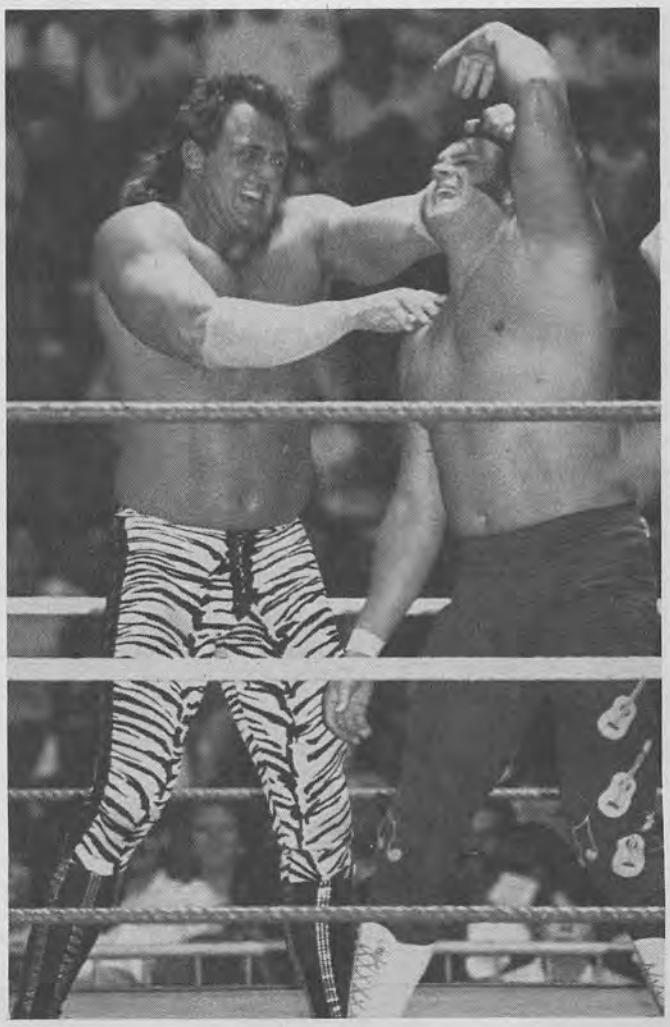
"That's true," said Rosenbaum. "I remember once hearing that after Honky Tonk lost a match by disqualification, he was just sitting in the locker room polishing the I-C belt. It's clear by his mood that the belt was all he cared about."

"That's right," Kuntzman said. "But now Honky Tonk is hearing the complaints that he really isn't the greatest I-C champion, even though he's held the title the longest, and that he holds the belt only through disqualification and interference. He hears the criticisms. My guess is he's looking to end this feud with Beefcake to move on and find better competition. He has to move on if he wants to prove he's the best I-C champion of all time!"

"Even Honky would have to admit that he's sick of Beefcake and wants to wrestle other competitors," said Rosenbaum. "He'll probably want to wrestle Randy Savage again, this time belt against belt. He knows that Savage is a better wrestler since their feud last year, but Honky Tonk remembers that, in all their match-



Honky struggles to retain his grasp, but Beefcake is about to break out (left). Beefcake grabs a handful of hair (below) and throws a left hand (opposite page). Honky may be ready to meet a new set of challengers.



es, Savage could never take the belt from him."

"And if he's not going to fight Savage," Peters added, "he's got a line of new challengers just waiting for him. There's no way the WWF should have allowed this feud to exclude other wrestlers from a shot at Honky's title. While Beefcake gets all the shots, there's a field of I-C challengers eagerly awaiting their chances, guys like Ultimate Warrior, Don Muraco, Hacksaw Duggan, Jake Roberts—the list goes on and on."

Peters had hit on the main thrust of the story. The editors of *Sports Review Wrestling* were all in agreement: For the good of the Intercontinental title, for the good of the combatants, and for the good of wrestling, the Beefcake-Honky Tonk feud must end now.

"Until it ends," Kuntzman concluded, "I-C belt competition is completely motionless. Beefcake needs to move on, Honky Tonk needs to move on, the fans, the federation, *everybody* has to move forward. Right now, they can't."

No one voiced a dissenting opinion. □

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ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS

(Continued from page 37)

NWA, while Gibson is negotiating with the AWA and several independent promotions.

Gibson, however, was nowhere to be found when Morton made the official announcement of the breakup on August 2. What caused the premature end of one of wrestling's most popular tag teams? Gibson's exodus from the NWA—and his longtime partner—may have been caused by a number of reasons.

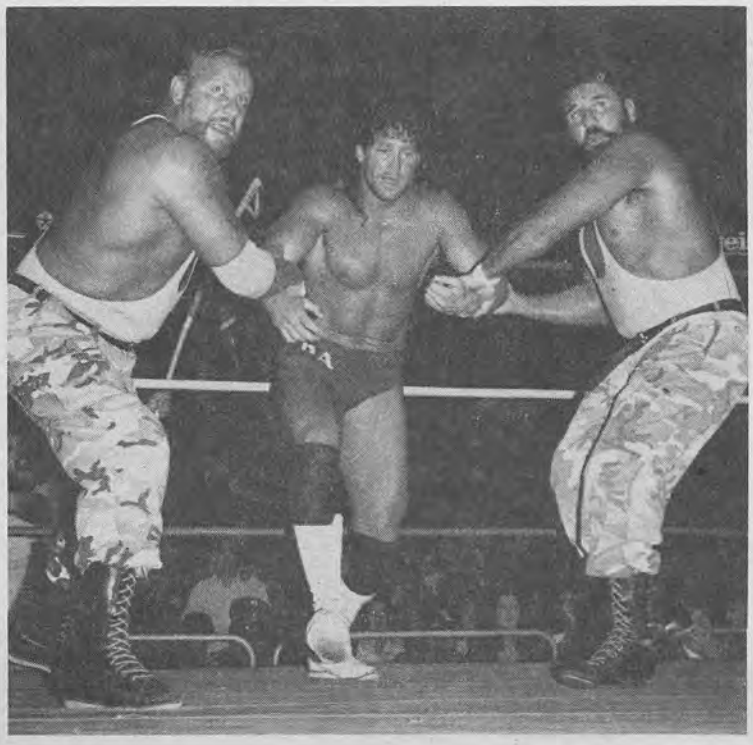
Morton and Gibson originally left the NWA in January when they believed they were not getting an adequate number of World title matches with Arn Anderson and Tully Blanchard, the men who stripped them of the title on September 29, 1987, in Misenheimer, North Carolina. After several months, Morton and Gibson left the NWA for their first world tour.

The high-flying duo wrestled in Puerto Rico for the World Wrestling Council, and in the Continental and CWA areas. But their greatest success came in the AWA, where they came extremely close to winning the AWA World tag team championship from Pat Tanaka and Paul Diamond.

While the Express was gone, NWA fans responded in record numbers to an *Inside Wrestling* petition calling for the return of Gibson and Morton. In June, NWA President Jim Crockett announced the duo *would* return, but some remarks made by Gibson at the time may have revealed some of his inner feelings about the situation.

"I'm happy to be back in the NWA," said Gibson, "but let me tell you, baby, we were *this* close to winning those AWA belts. Tanaka and Diamond were no match for us, and it's kind of sad to think that somebody else could finish the job we started."

Perhaps Gibson *still* feels that



After Gibson left the NWA, Morton teamed with Brad Armstrong (left). In one of the first matches as a team—against The Sheepherders—Armstrong is double-whipped (bottom left) and Luke Williams pummels Morton (below).

way. Many close to the wrestler believe that he *still* covets the AWA tag title, and actually *disagreed* with Morton on returning to the NWA when the team seemed so close to winning the AWA title.

On the other hand, it may have been Morton who instigated the parting. It has been Morton who has made the most concerted effort to establish himself as a singles wrestler; he engaged in a classic series of title conflicts with Ric Flair in 1986. Morton has privately expressed his desire for new shots at Flair, which certainly would take time away from tag pursuits with Gibson.

Perhaps most important was the fact that the Express had failed to receive a single title match—against either U.S. champions The Midnight Express or Blanchard and Anderson—since their return to the NWA. Gibson was quite outspoken at the lack of title shots when he was interviewed in late July.

"We didn't come back just to take up space," Gibson said. "We're here to win titles. I don't know how much longer I can wait for a title shot."

Apparently, Gibson could wait no longer. Morton is staying in the NWA—he's even formed a new tag team with Brad Armstrong called The Rock 'n' Lightning Express—but he hasn't closed the door on working with Gibson again.

"Hey, Robbie's a big boy," insists Morton. "He can make his own decisions. And who knows? Maybe someday soon we can be a team again."

It's hard to say who's *really* responsible for the end of The Rock 'n' Roll Express, but it's certain that their army of fans may never be the same. There are many popular wrestlers in the NWA, but for one very important faction it's the end of an era. It's hard to fathom that a team of this caliber is now a part of wrestling's past rather than its present. It simply wasn't supposed to end this way.

Just ask Dot Allanson. □

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3. **JERRY LAWLER** — *234, Memphis, TN* — **AWA World champion**
4. **TED DiBIASE** — *247, Omaha, NB* — **No. 2 contender: WWF title**
5. **LEX LUGER** — *268, Chicago, IL* — **No. 2 contender: NWA title**
6. **STING** — *260, Venice Beach, CA* — **No. 3 contender: NWA title**
7. **KERRY VON ERICH** — *260, Denton, TX* — **World Class champion**
8. **BARRY WINDHAM** — *236, Sweetwater, TX* — **U.S. heavyweight champion**
9. **HULK HOGAN** — *302, Venice Beach, CA* — **No. 3 contender: WWF title**
10. **THE HONKY TONK MAN** — *255, Memphis, TN* — **WWF Intercontinental champion**

TAG TEAMS

1. **TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON** — *Combined weight: 484 pounds* — **NWA World tag team champions**
2. **THE ROAD WARRIORS** — *Combined weight: 567 pounds* — **No. 1 contenders: NWA tag team title**
3. **DEMOLITION** — *Combined weight: 585 pounds* — **WWF World tag team champions**
4. **BOBBY EATON & STAN LANE** — *Combined weight: 453 pounds* — **U.S. tag team champions**
5. **WARLORD & BARBARIAN** — *Combined weight: 655 pounds* — **No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title**
6. **THE FANTASTICS** — *Combined weight: 462 pounds* — **No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag team title**
7. **PAT TANAKA & PAUL DIAMOND** — *Combined weight: 456 pounds* — **AWA World tag team champions**
8. **THE HART FOUNDATION** — *Combined weight: 515 pounds* — **No. 2 contenders: WWF tag team title**
9. **KERRY & KEVIN VON ERICH** — *Combined weight: 495 pounds* — **World Class tag team champions**
10. **JACQUES & RAYMOND ROUGEAU** — *Combined weight: 490 pounds* — **No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title**

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RIC FLAIR
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3—**STING** *260, Venice Beach, CA*
4—**DUSTY RHODES** *302, Austin, TX*
5—**STEVE WILLIAMS** *265, Norman, OK*
6—**NIKITA KOLOFF** *275, Moscow, Russia*
7—**AL PEREZ** *238, Tampa, FL*
8—**MIKE ROTUNDO** *245, Syracuse, NY*
9—**RONNIE GARVIN** *231, Montreal, Quebec*
10—**JIMMY GARVIN** *235, Tampa, FL*

WWF

World Champion:
RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL

1—**THE HONKY TONK MAN** *255, Memphis, TN*
2—**TED DiBIASE** *247, Omaha, NB*
3—**HULK HOGAN** *302, Venice Beach, CA*
4—**ANDRE THE GIANT** *497, Grenoble, France*
5—**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR** *280, Queens, NY*
6—**BRUTUS BEEFCAKE** *273, San Francisco, CA*
7—**HACKSAW DUGGAN** *280, Glens Falls, NY*
8—**JAKE ROBERTS** *246, Stone Mountain, GA*
9—**RICK RUDE** *246, Robbinsdale, MN*
10—**DON MURACO** *274, Sunset Beach, HI*

AWA

World Champion:
JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN

1—**GREG GAGNE** *220, Robbinsdale, MN*
2—**SOLDAT USTINOV** *265, Moscow, Russia*
3—**WAHOO McDANIEL** *280, Midland, TX*
4—**EDDIE GILBERT** *222, Lexington, TN*
5—**MANNY FERNANDEZ** *245, El Paso, TX*
6—**AUSTIN IDOL** *240, Las Vegas, NV*
7—**COL. DeBEERS** *248, Cape Town, South Africa*
8—**BARON VON RASCHKE** *271, Berlin, Germany*
9—**MANDO GUERRERO** *225, Mexico City, Mexico*
10—**TEIJHO KHAN** *265, Singapore*

WORLD CLASS

World Class Champion:
KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX

1—**ICEMAN PARSONS** *245, St. Louis, MO*
2—**KEVIN VON ERICH** *235, Denton, TX*
3—**KAMALA** *360, Uganda*
4—**ERIC EMBRY** *225, Lexington, KY*
5—**STEVE CASEY** *230, San Antonio, TX*
6—**BUDDY ROBERTS** *247, Del City, OK*
7—**MICHAEL HAYES** *255, Marietta, GA*
8—**TERRY GORDY** *289, Chattanooga, TN*
9—**BILL IRWIN** *250, Duluth, MN*
10—**BLACK BART** *261, Pampa, TX*

OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings.

For period ended August 12, 1988

MOST POPULAR

1. **HULK HOGAN** — *302, Venice Beach, CA* — **Last month: unrated**
2. **RANDY SAVAGE** — *245, Sarasota, FL* — **Last month: No. 1 Most Popular**
3. **STING** — *260, Venice Beach, CA* — **Last month: No. 2 Most Popular**
4. **LEX LUGER** — *268, Chicago, IL* — **Last month: No. 3 Most Popular**
5. **DUSTY RHODES** — *302, Austin, TX* — **Last month: No. 5 Most Popular**
6. **JAKE ROBERTS** — *246, Stone Mountain, GA* — **Last month: No. 4 Most Popular**
7. **HACKSAW DUGGAN** — *280, Glens Falls, NY* — **Last month: No. 7 Most Popular**
8. **JERRY LAWLER** — *234, Memphis, TN* — **Last month: No. 6 Most Popular**
9. **KERRY VON ERICH** — *260, Denton, TX* — **Last month: No. 8 Most Popular**
10. **THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR** — *280, Queens, NY* — **Last month: No. 9 Most Popular**

MOST HATED

1. **ANDRE THE GIANT** — *497, Grenoble, France* — **Last month: No. 1 Most Hated**
2. **RIC FLAIR** — *243, Minneapolis, MN* — **Last month: No. 2 Most Hated**
3. **TED DiBIASE** — *247, Omaha, NB* — **Last month: No. 3 Most Hated**
4. **BARRY WINDHAM** — *236, Sweetwater, TX* — **Last month: No. 4 Most Hated**
5. **RICK RUDE** — *246, Robbinsdale, MN* — **Last month: No. 5 Most Hated**
6. **THE HONKY TONK MAN** — *255, Memphis, TN* — **Last month: No. 6 Most Hated**
7. **EDDIE GILBERT** — *222, Lexington, TN* — **Last month: No. 7 Most Hated**
8. **RONNIE GARVIN** — *231, Montreal, Quebec* — **Last month: No. 9 Most Hated**
9. **GREG VALENTINE** — *243, Seattle, WA* — **Last month: unrated**
10. **ICEMAN PARSONS** — *245, St. Louis, MO* — **Last month: unrated**

CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of those issues—in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only—and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a number-one rating, nine for a number-two ranking, and so on down to one point for a number-10 rating. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, allowing a maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

SINGLES

1—RIC FLAIR ..... 95 points
2—RANDY SAVAGE ..... 69 points
3—LEX LUGER ..... 54 points
4—HULK HOGAN ..... 52 points
5—STING ..... 37 points

TAG TEAMS

1—TULLY BLANCHARD & ARN ANDERSON ... 92 points
2—THE ROAD WARRIORS ..... 75 points
3—THE MIDNIGHT EXPRESS ..... 69 points
4—DEMOLITION ..... 47 points
5—RICK MARTEL & TITO SANTANA ..... 46 points

STAMPEDE

North American Champion:
MAKHAN SINGH
380, Saginaw, MI

1—**JOHNNY SMITH** — *235, Manchester, England*
2—**STEVE DiSALVO** — *298, Boston, MA*
3—**CHRIS BENOIT** — *218, Edmonton, Alberta*
4—**STEVE BLACKMAN** — *250, Pittsburgh, PA*
5—**BRUCE HART** — *211, Calgary, Alberta*
6—**BRIAN PILLMAN** — *226, Cincinnati, OH*
7—**VULKAN SINGH** — *300, Billings, MT*
8—**LANCE IDOL** — *225, Hollywood, CA*
9—**JERRY MORROW** — *235, Martinique*
10—**GAMA SINGH** — *220, Karachi, Pakistan*

CWA

CWA Champion:
PHIL HICKERSON
257, Jackson, TN

1—**SCOTT STEINER** — *235, Detroit, MI*
2—**MAX PAIN** — *350, Iowa City, IA*
3—**BRICKHOUSE BROWN** — *225, Winter Haven, FL*
4—**ROBERT FULLER** — *238, Dyresburg, TN*
5—**JEFF JARRETT** — *200, Hendersonville, TN*
6—**JIMMY VALIANT** — *251, New York, NY*
7—**GARY YOUNG** — *240, Houston, TX*
8—**JIMMY GOLDEN** — *235, Montgomery, AL*
9—**BUDDY LANDELL** — *236, Los Angeles, CA*
10—**THE GREAT SENSHE** — *265, Tokyo, Japan*

CONTINENTAL

Continental Champion:
TITLE VACANT
To be filled in elimination tourney

1—**EDDIE GILBERT** — *222, Lexington, TN*
2—**AUSTIN IDOL** — *240, Las Vegas, NV*
3—**LORD HUMONGOUS** — *325, parts unknown*
4—**KEN WAYNE** — *208, Memphis, TN*
5—**TOM PRICHARD** — *220, Houston, TX*
6—**WILLIE B. HERT** — *238, El Paso, TX*
7—**TONY ANTHONY** — *235, Bucksnorth, TN*
8—**SHANE DOUGLAS** — *223, Pittsburgh, PA*
9—**DAN DAVIS** — *238, Nashville, TN*
10—**MR. OLYMPIA** — *242, parts unknown*

WINDY CITY WRESTLING

Windy City Champion:
STEVE REGAL
223, Indianapolis, IN

1—**COL. DeBEERS** — *248, Cape Town, South Africa*
2—**BAM BAM BIGELOW** — *368, Mt. Laurel, NJ*
3—**NORD THE BARBARIAN** — *316, Bozeman, MT*
4—**LARRY CAMERON** — *270, Chicago, IL*
5—**EDDIE GILBERT** — *222, Lexington, TN*
6—**TERMINATOR RIGS** — *255, parts unknown*
7—**DENNIS CONDREY** — *256, Marietta, GA*
8—**RANDY ROSE** — *246, Pensacola, FL*
9—**MIGHTY THOR** — *268, parts unknown*
10—**ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER** — *360, Khartoum, Sudan*

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 135 wrestlers in 12 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

It is, after all, "Ratings Analysis," . . . so let's analyze this issue's Top 10 singles and tag team ratings. This is something you're always asking for, but we rarely have the space to do.

First, the singles ratings. **Randy Savage** retains his solid grip on the WWF World title despite a determined challenge by **Ted DiBiase**. "The Million-Dollar Man" has received a majority of the title shots against Savage, but seems to be getting *farther* away from winning the title. As Savage gains confidence, his hold on the number one spot, too, grows stronger. Can he hold off **Andre the Giant**?

Ric Flair

After six straight months in the top spot, NWA World champ **Ric Flair** is now in his second month at number two. The reason is simple: Flair defended his belt only once at the recently completed Great American Bash—a six-week period with only one defense. That's unforgiveable.

AWA World champ **Jerry Lawler** might be the next to displace Flair ("The King" received support from several editors this month). Lawler continues to put the title on the line frequently, often against champions from other federations . . . **Ted DiBiase** often relies on outside interference in his matches, yet he is undeniably an outstanding scientific wrestler. But will he ever beat Savage?

Many people think that **Lex Luger** should be NWA World champ right now, and he probably *would* be if his July 10 match against Flair in Baltimore wasn't stopped . . . If Luger doesn't beat Flair, **Sting** probably will. This incredibly talented scientific and acrobatic powerhouse will be a star for many years . . . World Class champ **Kerry Von Erich** continues to battle Lawler in title vs. title matches. When he's not wrestling Lawler, Kerry defends the WCCW belt with honor, despite his out-of-ring injuries.

Barry Windham, scientific wrestler *par excellence* despite his affiliation with The Four Horsemen, might be the most talented U.S. champion ever . . . **Hulk Hogan** is back! And upon his return, he defeated **Andre the Giant** in a series of matches. That's what we call returning with a bang! . . . **The Honky Tonk Man** is short on skill, but he's the longest-reigning Intercontinental champion ever. Longevity counts for *something*.

And now the tag teams. NWA World tag team champions **Tully Blanchard** and **Arn Anderson** have held their belts for most of the past year. And although they tried to avoid a match against **The Fantastics**, Tully and Arn have been working champions . . . Are **The Road Warriors** the best tag team in the world? Well, they've now spent four straight months *out* of the number-one spot, and the reasons are clear: lack of a title, lack of an important feud, and lack of matches against the champs. Have the Warriors lost their purpose? . . . **Demolition**, the WWF World tag champs, will have to hold off a determined assault by **The Powers of Pain** if they hope to retain their belts. **Ax** and **Smash**, however, have proven to be a much better team than most people anticipated.

The Midnight Express can combine brawling, rulebreaking, and wrestling skill better than any team in the country. And with **Jim Cornette's** help, they're on the verge of a title series against Tully and Arn . . . Since moving to the WWF, **The Powers of Pain** have established themselves as a force to be reckoned with. They're on the verge of winning the World title . . . **The Fantastics** may be small, but they're tough and multitalented; the Midnights had to revert to rulebreaking to beat them . . . **Pat Tanaka** and **Paul Diamond—Bad Company**—have had little trouble retaining their AWA World title since the departure of **The Midnight Rockers** and **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**.

The Hart Foundation has come back to life since the removal of manager **Jimmy Hart**. They were scheduled for a shot at **Demolition** on August 29 at Madison Square Garden . . . **Kerry** and **Kevin Von Erich** have made infrequent WCCW title defenses but are dominating when they do . . . **Jacques** and **Raymond Rougeau** have infuriated WWF fans but developed new desire and a killer instinct over the past few months.

Everyone knows it's windy . . . Windy City Wrestling, that is, which makes its first appearance in our revolving ratings category this month. Operating out of Chicago and throughout Illinois, Windy City is one of the newest federations in the sport, yet boasts some outstanding talent, including **Bam Bam Bigelow** (recently departed from the WWF), the legendary **Abdullah the Butcher**, and **Paul E. Dangerously's** army, including **Eddie Gilbert**. The Windy City heavyweight champion is **Steve Regal**.

What should be next in our revolving category? And what features would you like to see in "Ratings Analysis"? Should we provide an analysis of the singles and tag team ratings each month? We'd like to know what you think. The address for mail is: "Ratings Analysis," c/o *Sports Review Wrestling;* Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

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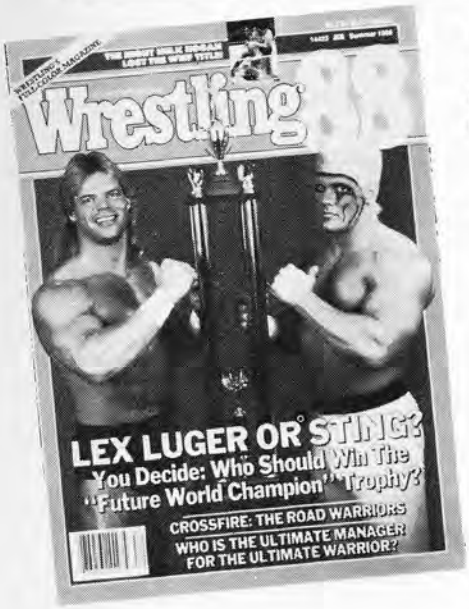

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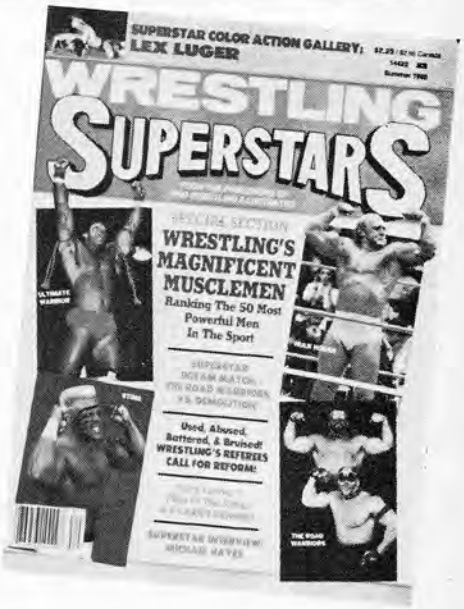

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